

Idaho Employment

A monthly update of how Idaho's economy is doing in your area

IDAHO
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

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C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER, GOVERNOR



MADSEN RETIRES, NEW LABOR DIRECTOR STARTS NOV. 25

After nearly 19 years leading the Idaho Department of Labor, Director Roger B. Madsen officially retired Nov. 15. He was appointed by Gov. Phil Batt in 1995. He and his wife, Leslie, will leave in mid-December for Morocco on a humanitarian mission until summer of 2015, helping to distribute wheelchairs and arranging medical services and training.

Twin Falls businessman and State Board of Education member Ken Edmunds was named successor by Idaho Gov. C.L. "Butch" Otter. Jay Engstrom, deputy director at the Department of Labor, will serve as acting director until Edmunds assumes the job Nov. 25.

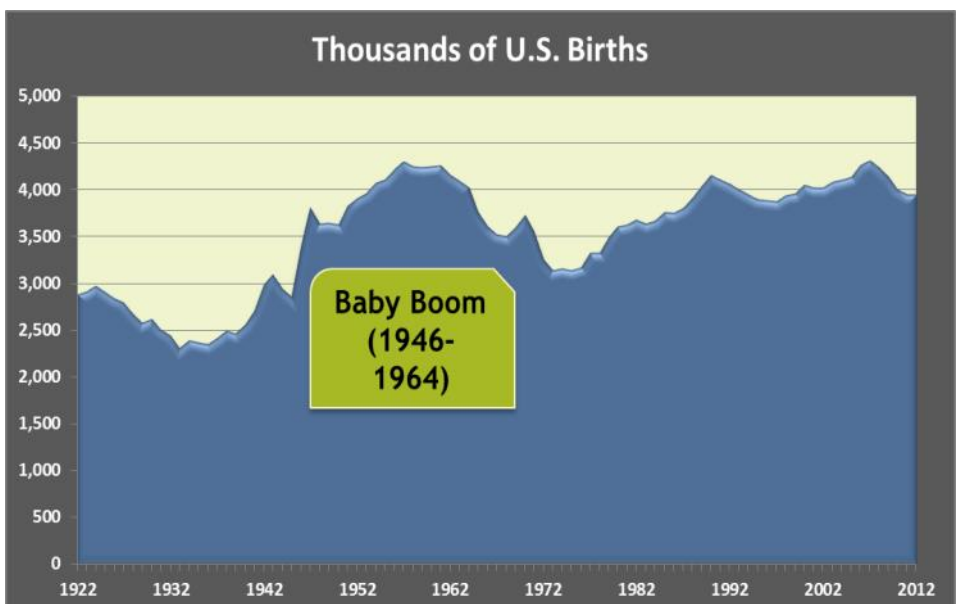
WHAT HAPPENS WHEN BOOMERS TURN 65?

Baby boomers have been shaking the economy ever since their birth. Now, they are starting to reach traditional retirement age. How quickly they retire and how high their incomes are after retirement will have a significant effect on Idaho's economy.

WHAT WAS THE BABY BOOM?

Since their birth in the 18 years after World War II ended, this enormous generation has affected the economy. In their childhood, they dramatically increased the demand for baby paraphernalia, children's clothing and toys. As they entered their teens and began working, they swelled the ranks of workers, spurring U.S. productive capacity. Now, they are in their 50s and 60s, and they may be rewriting what it means to be a senior citizen.

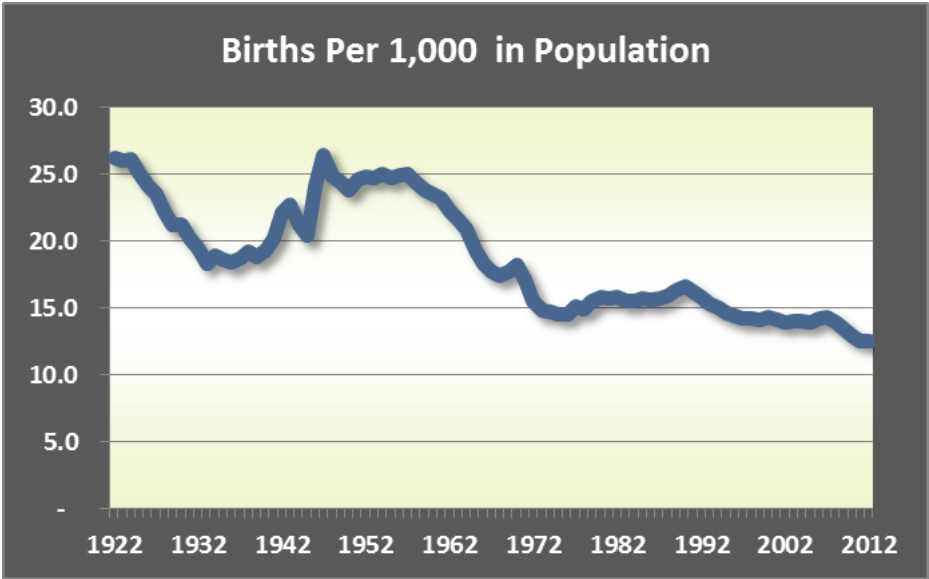
They were born during the "baby boom" that followed World War II. Americans had dramatically reduced births rates during the Depression that



began in 1929 and lasted until America entered the war in 1941. During the war, millions of Americans put off marriage and children. Once the war ended in August 1945, marriage and babies were high on the agendas of millions. Starting in the mid-1960s, birth rates began to fall. The generation born during the “baby bust” between 1965 and 1982 is known as Generation X. As baby boomers who had postponed marriage and children began having them in the mid-1980s, there was a “baby boom echo.” Those born then are known as Millennials. In 2007, births reached 4.3 million, exceeding the previous record set in 1957 by just 8,000.

The baby boom stands out even more compared to recent decades when looking at birth rates – the number of births per thousand people. The population of the United States more than doubled from 151 million in 1950 to 309 million in 2010. So even when the number of births in the last decade were in the same range as during the baby boom, the birth rate is about half of what it was then. Birth rates before 1925 were even higher than during the baby boom generation because people married younger, started having babies earlier and kept having them. Large numbers of young immigrants also moved in, further increasing birth rates. The 1920s was the first decade when reliable forms of birth control became widely available.

Family sizes have changed dramatically since the baby boom. In the 1950s, the average American woman had about 3.8 children during her lifetime. By the 1990s, she would have about 2.1. In recent years, the births per thousand people in the population also have declined because of the aging of the population. With a much larger percentage of the population over 50 and past normal child-bearing years, the birth rate has dropped.

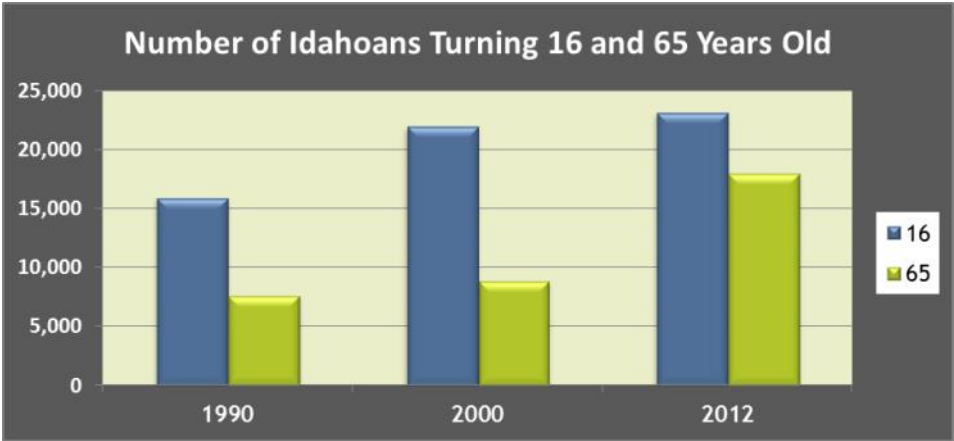
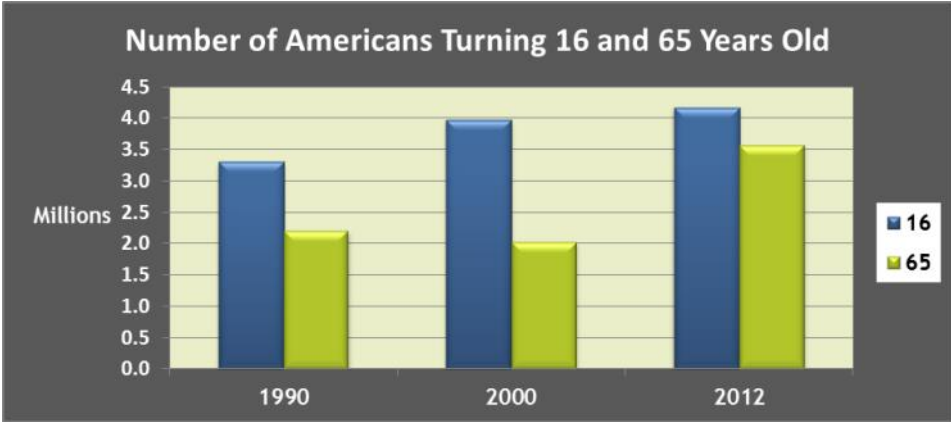


The number of babies born in the United States fell sharply after the recession began and continued to fall until 2012 when it plateaued. Altogether, between 2007 and 2011 the fertility rate – the total number of babies born per 1,000 women ages 15 to 44 – fell 9 percent. All types of women decreased their birth rates with young Hispanics having the sharpest decline. Fertility dropped by one-third among Hispanic women 20 to 24. At the current rate, the average American woman would have 1.9 babies over her lifetime. That is below the replacement rate of 2.1 babies, where Americans hovered for a couple of decades before the recession.

Idaho births also fell sharply after the recession began – declining 11 percent from 25,025 in 2007 to 22, 311 in 2011.

RAPIDLY GRAYING

The ranks of senior citizens are swelling rapidly as the baby boomers turn 65 while the number of people turning 16 has grown more slowly.



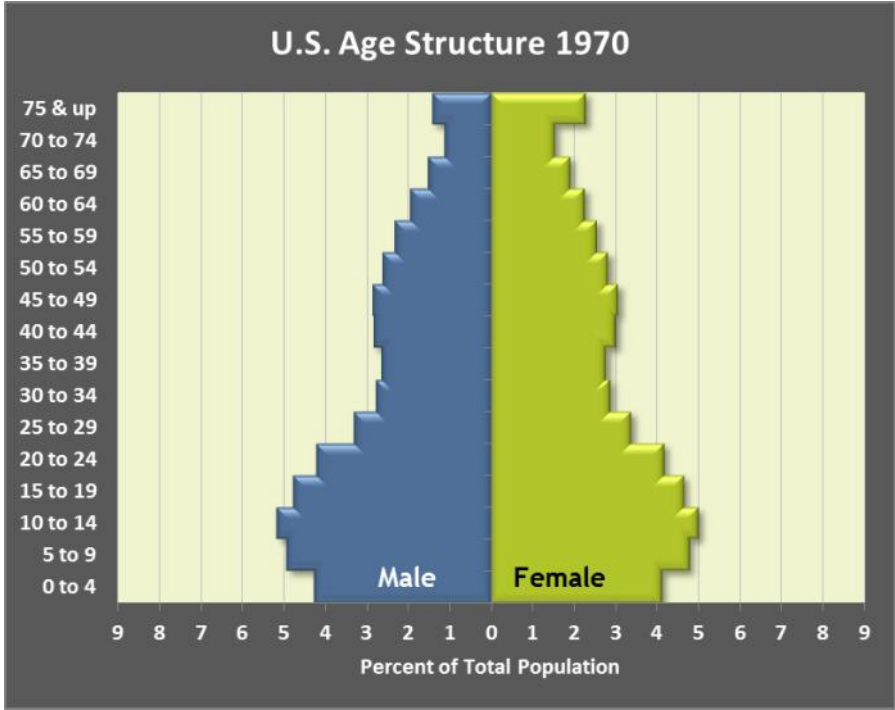
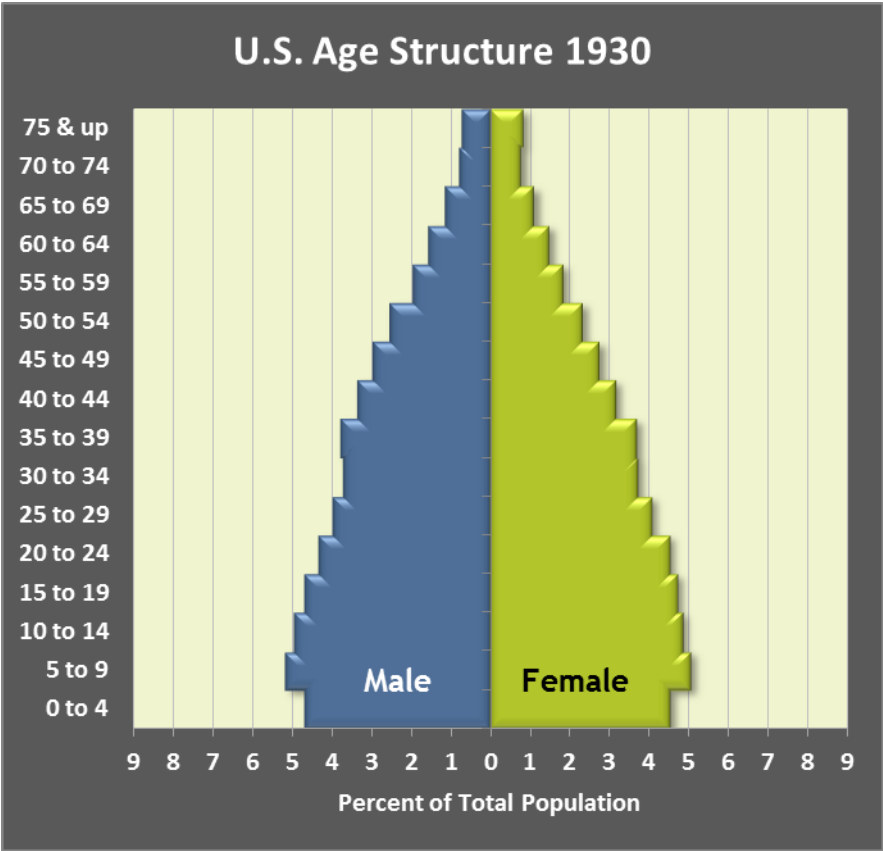
The number of seniors is also growing faster than the population because today’s seniors are living far longer than earlier generations. In 1935, life expectancy for a newborn boy was 59.4 years. A man who had lived to the age of 30 could expect to live to be 67.3 years old and a man who turned 60 could expect to live to 74.8. Today, a baby boy’s life expectancy is 75.4, and a 30-year old man can expect to live to 76.9 while a man turning 60 can expect to live to 80.3.

Life Expectancy in the United States at Indicated Age				
Year	Sex	At birth	At 30 years	At 60 years
1935	Male	59.4	37.3	14.8
1935	Female	63.3	40.1	16.4
2010	Male	75.4	46.9	20.3
2010	Female	80	50.9	23.2

Source: Social Security Administration

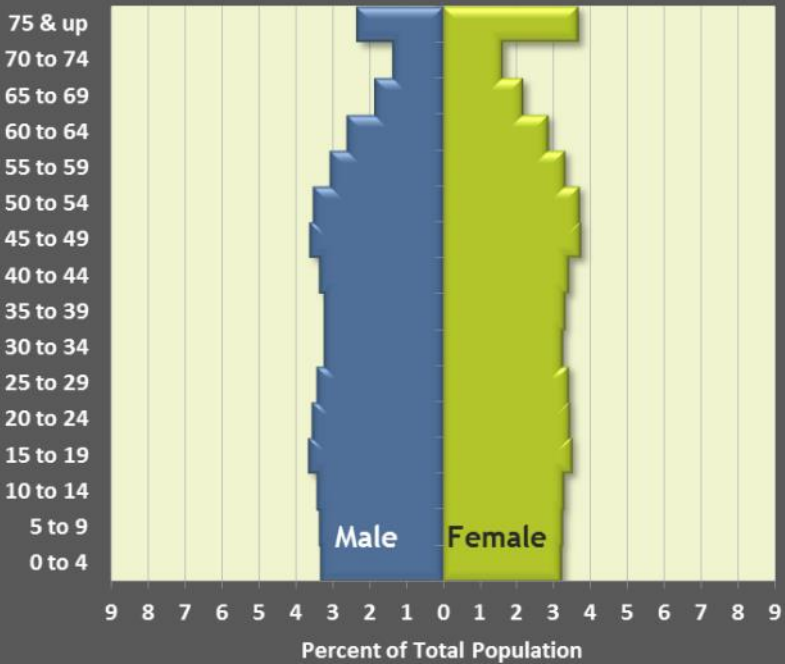
Diagrams of the population age structure, also called age pyramids, provide an easy way to look at age and gender composition. Comparing 1930 to 1970 to 2010, the increased percentages of the population in older groups reflect the increase in longevity and the changes in birth rates. The bulges

caused by the boomers can be seen in 1970 and 2010. In 1970, the baby boomers were between 6 and 24. In 2010, they were between 46 and 64.

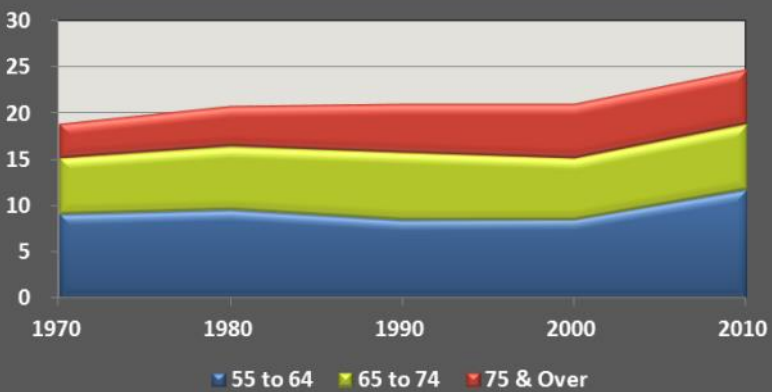


With the baby boomers just beginning to enter the 65-and-over age group, the tremendous growth that has already occurred in that group will pale in comparison to what happens over the next 15 years.

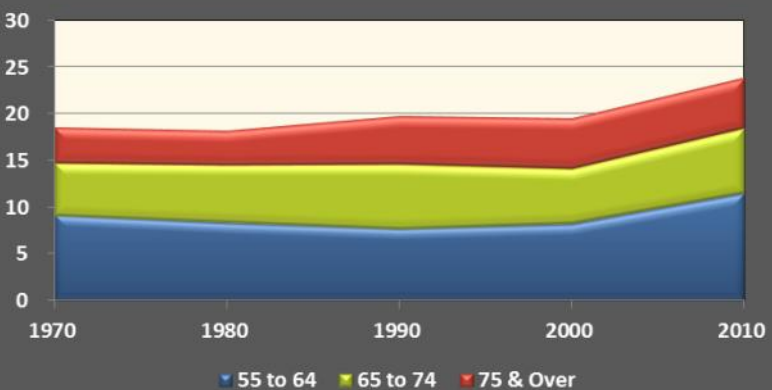
U.S. Age Structure 2010



Percentage of American Population in Age Group



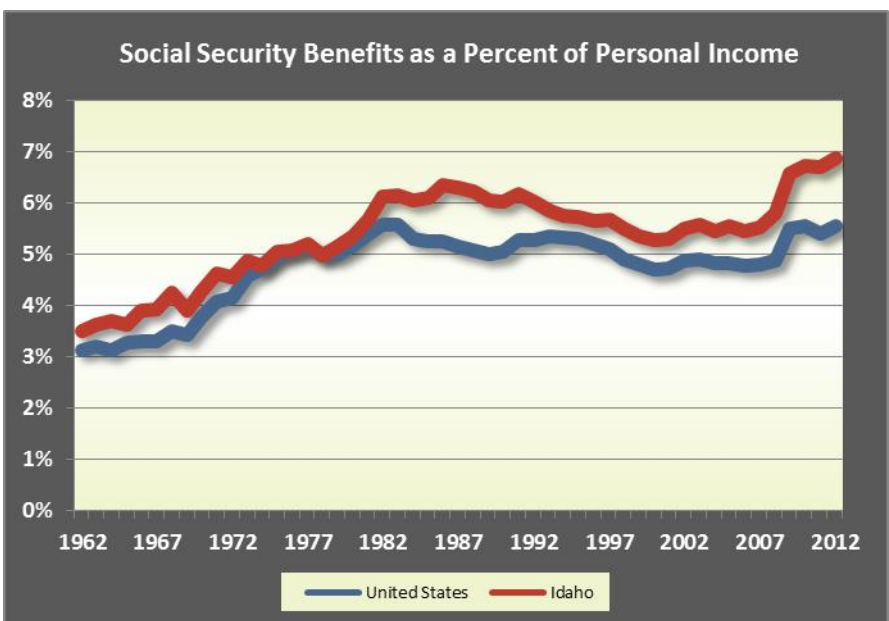
Percentage of Idaho Population in Age Group



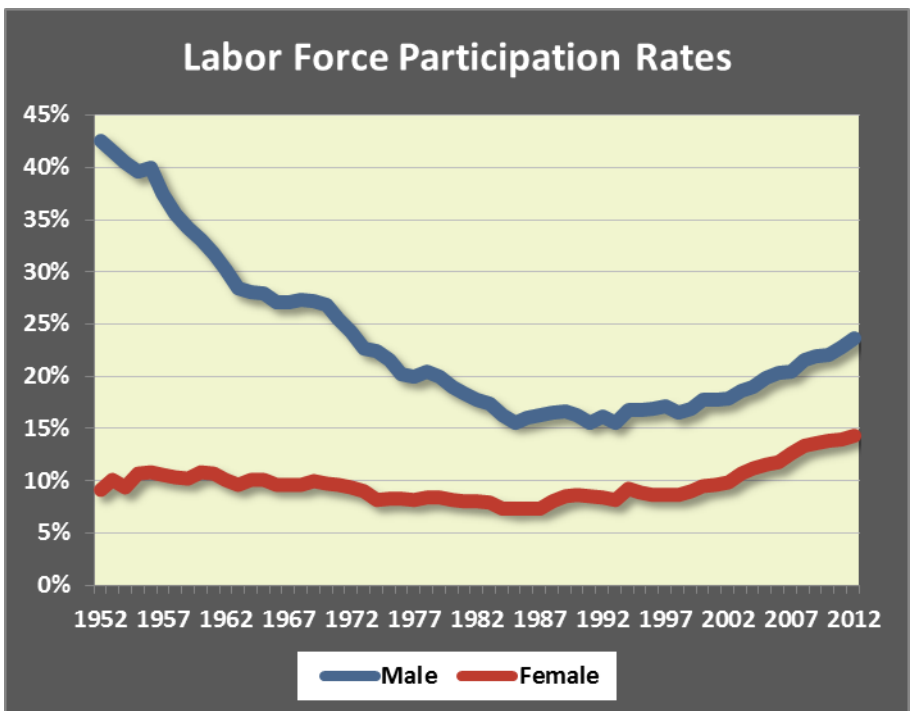
WHAT THE GRAYING OF THE BOOMERS MAY MEAN FOR THE ECONOMY

The aging of the boomers will have many implications for the American economy and Idaho's future.

- ⬆ In the June issue of Idaho Employment, Will Jenson outlined the growing need to replace baby boomers as they begin to retire. With much fewer Generation Y workers to succeed them, maintaining an adequate labor force could be challenging. If the replacement process is not done well, it could lead to reduced productivity, which will mean lower incomes for many Americans.
- ⬆ Training new workers and preparing existing ones to replace retiring boomers will force employers to consider the loss of institutional knowledge. Many people who have worked on a job for a long time have insights and understanding that need to be conveyed to others. A poll conducted in January by the Society for Human Resource Management and AARP found 72 percent of human resource professionals believed the loss of talented older workers was "a problem" or "a potential problem." However, only 5 percent had implemented policies and practices to address the loss.
- ⬆ How fast an economy can grow depends on how fast its workforce can grow. The cohort of Millennials is slightly smaller than the cohort of boomers so as they replace boomers, the U.S. economy is likely to grow more slowly than it did in earlier decades when the potential workforce was expanding rapidly.
- ⬆ As they retire, boomers' incomes will go down, reducing the buying power of the average American consumer. This also may have implications for economic growth.
- ⬆ Social Security benefits are becoming a larger percentage of personal income as Americans age. Social Security is more important to Idaho's rural counties than in its metropolitan counties. Social Security benefits made up 7.5 percent of personal income in Idaho's rural counties in 2012 while they provided up 6.5 percent of metropolitan income.



- As people age, their tastes and needs will change, resulting in less demand for manufactured goods including automobiles, appliances and clothing and greater demand for health care, residential care, lawn care, housecleaning, travel, money management services and other services.
- As boomers grow older, health care jobs will grow even faster nationwide and in Idaho.
- With today's seniors generally enjoying better health and given the effect of the financial crisis and recession on nest eggs, many seniors plan to keep working into their late 60s or even early 70s. Working longer is a greater possibility today since physical labor is playing a smaller role in the economy. Labor force participation rates have increased dramatically for older workers since the late 1980s. In 2012, about 23 percent of Idaho's population 65 to 74 years of age participated in the labor force. In 2000, about 19 percent did. The number of Idahoans 65 and over holding a job covered by unemployment insurance nearly tripled from 8,447 to 24,707 between 1992 and 2012.



- The aging of the workforce may result in some losses in productivity since jobs requiring physical stamina, speed, keen eyesight or motor coordination become more difficult for workers as they age. Older workers also tend to be less likely to adopt new technologies including social media. On the other hand, many employers report that older workers have high work ethic and better customer service skills than many younger workers.
- Idaho has a proven ability to attract retirees so the growth in the U.S. retired population may be a benefit. But the upcoming generation of retirees may be less wealthy than earlier retirees because of poorer financial management, fewer pensions, loss of wealth in houses and stocks during the financial crisis, lower interest rates, greater levels of debt and the fact that many were forced into early retirement by job

losses during the recession. In addition, more boomers are telling pollsters that they plan to grow old in their current communities. The close ties between boomers and their children may be one of the factors making it less likely that boomers will move when they retire. In August, MoneyRates.com selected Idaho as the state offering the most retiree-friendly conditions. It looked at the growth of the senior population; economic factors including the cost of living, taxes and unemployment; violent and property crime rates; the climate; and life expectancies at age 65. Iowa, Hawaii, South Dakota and Oregon came in second through fifth.

- ⤴ Debt is more common for today's seniors. The median level of debt among households led by someone 65 and older rose nearly 120 percent from \$12,000 in 2000 to \$26,000 in 2010. The median debt load for households led by people aged 55 to 64 grew 64 percent to \$70,000.
- ⤴ A majority of Americans with 401(k)-type savings accounts are accumulating debt faster than they are setting aside money for retirement, according to an October report by HelloWallet, a firm that conducts research on economic behavior. About 64 percent of workers accumulated debt faster than retirement savings between 2009 and 2011. Many of those with high levels of debt are in their 50s and 60s.
- ⤴ Nest eggs have eroded. About 48 percent of people aged 61 to 70 and in the bottom half of the income distribution withdrew money from their IRAs annually between 2002 and 2010. Withdrawals averaged 15 percent, according to a May report by the Employee Benefit Research Institute. About 63 percent of workers displaced during the recession dipped into their retirement savings to pay bills, according to a 2012 study by Transamerica Center for Retirement Studies.
- ⤴ About 59 percent of households headed by people 65 or older have no retirement account assets, according to Federal Reserve data. The median 401(k) balance for households of people ages 55 to 64 was \$120,000 in 2011, according to the Center for Retirement Research at Boston College. That is far below what is needed to provide the retirement income from a typical pension plan.
- ⤴ A MetLife Mature Market Institute study released in October found that over 40 percent of recent retirees were forced to retire earlier than they expected because of health problems, job loss or care-giving responsibilities. A 2010 Urban Institute study found that working just one more year would increase retirees' income in retirement by 9 percent.
- ⤴ Those who began taking Social Security benefits at age 62 will have lower Social Security benefits for the rest of their lives. Taking benefits early also limits the amount of earned income a beneficiary may receive. For workers who retire before the normal retirement age, an earnings test is applied. They lose \$1 of benefits for every \$2 of earnings they receive above \$15,120. There is no loss of benefits for those above the normal retirement age. A Morningstar study estimates that people born before 1955 who take benefits at age 62 get only 75 percent of what they would receive at age 65.

- ▲ When older workers lose their jobs, they usually find it takes them longer to find a new job than it takes younger workers. In August, the average duration of unemployment for workers 55 and over was 50.4 weeks compared to 34.2 weeks for workers under 55. In addition, a 2012 study by a Wellesley College economics professor suggests that the life expectancy of boomers ages 57 to 61 who lose their jobs (and health insurance) may be reduced by three years.

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IDAHO SHOWS ROBUST GROWTH IN PRIVATE HEALTH CARE

Idaho’s private health care industry has had one of the largest growth rates in the country and is projected to have one of the largest for the next decade. According to data from Economic Modeling Specialists International, Idaho’s health care industry expanded 46 percent between 2003 and 2013, an impressive growth rate considering the recession. This was the largest growth rate among the surrounding states and nationally second only to Arizona, where the sector grew 49 percent.

This robust growth is projected to continue into the next decade with Idaho’s health care sector growing another 35.5 percent by 2023. The rate was high enough to keep Idaho in second place among all states, this time behind Utah with a projected 35.7 percent growth.

Change/Projected Change in Health Care Industry Employment					
Area	2003-2013	Rank	Area	2013-2023	Rank
Idaho	45.9%	2	Utah	35.7%	1
Utah	41.0%	4	Idaho	35.5%	2
Nevada	34.1%	7	Oregon	29.7%	11
Montana	28.0%	13	Wyoming	27.5%	14
Wyoming	24.5%	19	National	22.7%	-
Oregon	24.1%	20	Washington	20.6%	31
Washington	23.4%	23	Nevada	18.3%	41
National	23.0%	-	Montana	14.1%	49
Source: QCEW Employees - EMSI 2013.2 Class of Worker, Idaho Department of Labor Health Care Business Scan 2013					

Growth in health care occupations regardless of industry was also very strong, both during the last decade and projected into the future. Idaho is seventh nationally in terms of health care occupation growth since 2003 at 30.3 percent. Utah ranks second nationally and leads the region with 35.6 percent.

Change/Projected Change in Health Care Occupational Employment					
Area	2003-2013	Rank	Area	2013-2023	Rank
Utah	35.6%	2	Utah	31.9%	1
Idaho	30.3%	7	Idaho	31.5%	2
Nevada	27.9%	8	Oregon	27.2%	7
Montana	25.0%	10	Wyoming	21.9%	21
Wyoming	22.1%	20	National	21.2%	-
Oregon	20.9%	23	Washington	19.7%	29
Washington	20.9%	24	Nevada	15.9%	44
National	20.6%	-	Montana	13.2%	50
Source: QCEW Employees - EMSI 2013.2 Class of Worker, Idaho Department of Labor Health Care Business Scan 2013					

In terms of projected growth, Idaho is expected to do even better. With a 31.5 percent increase in health care occupations by 2023, Idaho moves to second in the nation just behind Utah’s 31.9 percent.

Wages for health care occupations are a mixed bag though. Comparing them to all other occupations in the state, they do well. Idaho health care occupation’s median wage is 40.5 percent higher than the all-occupation median wage. That is enough to put Idaho 12th compared to the other states in terms of health care median as a percent of the median for all jobs. Nevada, Oregon and Montana all come in higher regionally. But comparing the actual median wage in Idaho drops the state to 35th nationally. Only Montana had a lower median hourly wage for health care occupations in the region at \$23.68.

Health Care Median Wage					
Relative to All Occupations			Median Wage		
Area	Percent	Rank	Area	Wage	Rank
Nevada	166.3%	1	Nevada	\$31.49	2
Oregon	157.1%	2	Oregon	\$31.48	3
Montana	143.1%	7	Washington	\$29.75	8
Idaho	140.5%	12	Wyoming	\$26.76	20
Utah	139.6%	14	National	\$26.53	-
Wyoming	138.5%	17	Utah	\$25.72	28
National	132.8%	-	Idaho	\$24.16	35
Washington	132.0%	29	Montana	\$23.68	39

Source: QCEW Employees - EMSI 2013.2 Class of Worker, Idaho Department of Labor Health Care Business Scan 2013

More details on Idaho’s health care industry and data for all states are in the Idaho’s Health Care Industry Business Scan at <http://labor.idaho.gov/publications/HealthCareScan2013.pdf>.

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FEWER WORKING IDAHOANS ON ASSISTANCE THAN OTHER STATES

The number of Idaho workers earning a wage and still receiving government assistance for people with low incomes nearly doubled during the Great Recession, but the overall percentage of those with jobs who received government aid remained among the lowest in the nation.

In 2011, two years after the recession ended, the Census Bureau’s American Community Survey estimated that 5.7 percent of all workers in Idaho, over 50,000, received some kind of government assistance – medical care or food stamps, for example – in addition to their paychecks.

That compared to 3.2 percent, less than 30,000, who worked but still qualified for and received government aid in 2008, the year the recession really took hold in Idaho.

Even with the two-and-a-half percentage point increase in just three years – the 14th largest percentage point increase in the nation – Idaho’s percentage of workers receiving government aid ranked 38th among the states and the District of Columbia in 2011.

That was up from 50th in 2008. Only Nevada had a lower percentage of workers on government aid as the recession began – 2.7 percent. By 2011, Nevada’s rate had risen to 5 percent, ranking 46th nationally.

Nationwide, the Census Bureau estimated 7.8 percent of workers received government aid in 2011, up from 5.8 percent in 2008.

Being eligible for government assistance while holding down a job could be the result of minimum or relatively lower wage job, less than full-time hours or temporary or seasonal employment that leaves workers without jobs for weeks or months each year.

In Idaho, the percentage of employees of private businesses who received government assistance rose from 3.7 percent in 2008 to 5.9 percent in 2009 and essentially stayed there in 2010 before jumping to 6.8 percent in 2011. Private employers account for about two thirds of the jobs in Idaho.

Percent of Idaho Workers Receiving Government Aid by Type of Employer					
	2008	2009	2010	2011	% of Jobs
Total	3.2%	5.5%	4.9%	5.7%	100%
Private Employer	3.7%	5.9%	5.8%	6.8%	65.8%
Nonprofit Employer	2.8%	5.2%	4.8%	4.6%	6.3%
Local Government	1.6%	4.3%	2.4%	4.2%	7.3%
State Government	2.4%	3.1%	2.6%	3.3%	5.3%
Federal Government	2.0%	3.8%	1.6%	1.7%	3.3%
Not Incorporated Self Employed	2.4%	6.7%	4.2%	4.7%	7.7%
Incorporated Self Employed	1.6%	1.7%	1.9%	2.6%	3.8%
Unpaid Family Business	3.7%	6.4%	4.6%	4.9%	0.5%
Source: Census Bureau's American Community Survey					

Government at all levels generally had the lowest percentage of workers also receiving government assistance although self-employed people whose businesses were incorporated had the lowest percentages in both 2008 and 2009.

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Percent of Workers Receiving Government Assistance				
2008			2011	
	%	Rank	%	Rank
US	5.8%		7.8%	
Alabama	4.5%	35	5.6%	40
Alaska	4.7%	34	7.0%	26
Arizona	8.5%	7	11.9%	6
Arkansas	5.2%	25	6.5%	30
California	6.6%	13	8.6%	14
Colorado	4.0%	41	6.8%	27
Connecticut	6.5%	14	10.2%	10
Delaware	9.0%	6	11.8%	7
DC	13.2%	1	16.2%	1
Florida	4.2%	39	6.5%	31
Georgia	3.6%	46	4.8%	49

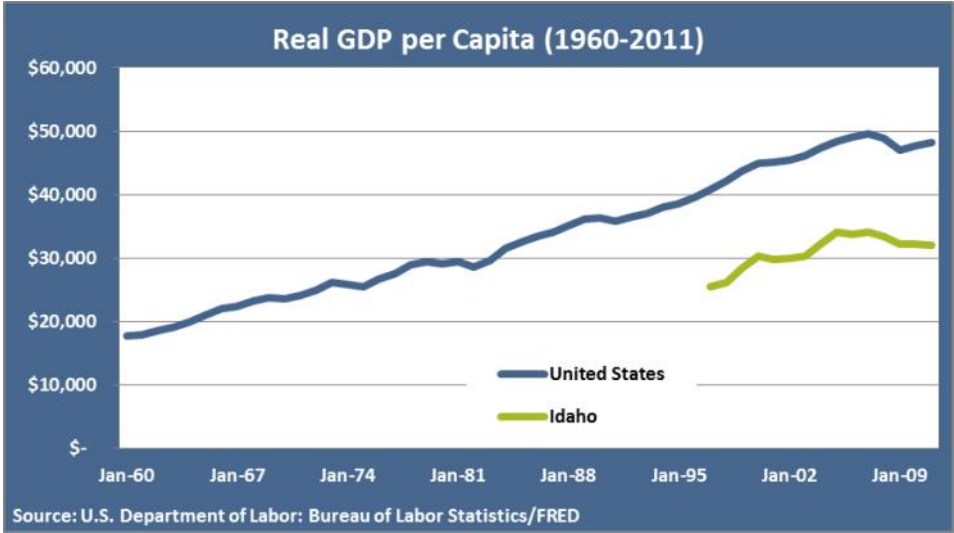
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Percent of Workers Receiving Government Assistance				
2008			2011	
	%	Rank	%	Rank
Hawaii	4.9%	29	7.8%	20
Idaho	3.2%	50	5.7%	38
Illinois	6.3%	16	8.2%	17
Indiana	4.8%	31	6.6%	29
Iowa	6.0%	19	7.6%	21
Kansas	3.5%	48	5.0%	48
Kentucky	5.1%	28	6.3%	36
Louisiana	5.6%	20	7.3%	23
Maine	12.7%	3	13.8%	4
Maryland	3.9%	42	7.1%	25
Massachusetts	10.2%	4	14.4%	3
Michigan	7.6%	9	9.7%	11
Minnesota	7.0%	11	9.3%	13
Mississippi	5.6%	21	7.3%	24
Missouri	5.1%	27	6.4%	34
Montana	3.8%	44	5.2%	44
Nebraska	4.2%	38	5.2%	45
Nevada	2.7%	51	5.0%	46
New Hampshire	3.4%	49	4.5%	50
New Jersey	4.7%	32	6.3%	37
New Mexico	8.1%	8	10.5%	9
New York	9.3%	5	12.7%	5
North Carolina	4.9%	30	6.4%	33
North Dakota	4.2%	37	5.5%	41
Ohio	6.4%	15	8.4%	16
Oklahoma	4.7%	33	6.3%	35
Oregon	3.9%	43	7.9%	18
Pennsylvania	6.2%	17	7.8%	19
Rhode Island	6.2%	18	9.4%	12
South Carolina	5.1%	26	6.7%	28
South Dakota	5.5%	22	5.3%	42
Tennessee	6.6%	12	8.4%	15
Texas	3.7%	45	5.3%	43
Utah	4.0%	40	5.6%	39
Vermont	12.7%	2	16.1%	2
Virginia	3.6%	47	4.2%	51
Washington	5.4%	24	6.4%	32
West Virginia	5.4%	23	7.5%	22
Wisconsin	7.6%	10	10.9%	8
Wyoming	4.3%	36	5.0%	47
Source: U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey				

GAP CLOSING BETWEEN EMPLOYMENT / GDP GROWTH

Economists often look at per capita real gross product – the value of all goods and services adjusted for inflation – to gauge productivity and measure economic gains. Between 1960 and 2011 this measure has grown 172 percent nationwide.

Idaho’s per capita real gross product, using the North American Industry Classification System beginning in 1997, grew 25 percent through 2011 compared to 18 percent growth nationally. That has begun to close the gap between the state and nation. But considering Idaho’s 2011 real gross product per capita was \$32,050 and only 67 percent of the national per capita figure of \$48,282, there is still plenty of ground to make up.



Improvements in technology are a major factor in improving labor productivity and real gross product per capita along with improvements in human capital – the knowledge, skills and abilities of people.

Some industries are affected by these changes more than others. And the economic downturn after 2007 also affected individual industries differently. There are at least eight ways to look at employment and real gross product.

EMPLOYMENT GROWING BUT NOT GROSS PRODUCT

Most industries with growing employment but not gross product are labor intensive. Of the 20 sectors being compared, seven show the number of employees growing faster than real gross product. Only three demonstrated this same trend between 1997 and 2012. Industries like mining require an increase in employment before any contribution towards real gross product can be made. The horse must come before the cart. Many industries could also include a higher number of self-employed individuals. This is certainly the case in the real estate and could also be justified in management of companies and other service industries.

Idaho’s mining industry experienced an exceptionally large drop in production during 2012. The Lucky Friday mine in Mullan was closed for most of the year following a collapse that killed one worker and injured several others. The mine’s investor report showed total sales in 2011 of \$134.7 million and only \$248,000 in 2012. The shutdown certainly played a role in

the 43 percent decrease in mining contributions toward the state's real gross product between 2011 and 2012.

GROSS PRODUCT GROWING BUT NOT EMPLOYMENT

Only the information and construction industries saw growth in gross product but not employment between 2011 and 2012. Information was the only industry in this category between 1997 and 2012. Agriculture and natural resources and manufacturing also experienced these same trends between 1997 and 2012. The manufacturing sector grew 349 percent in that period – more growth than any other sector. At the same time employment fell almost 10 percent.

Mechanization replacing workers with equipment is likely the reason. Agriculture and manufacturing are classic examples of industries that once required a significant amount of labor but are now dominated by robotics and mechanically engineered production systems.

Construction was only part of this category from 2011 to 2012. This probably has more to do with the economic downturn than any structural labor force component. The construction industry certainly implemented technological changes over the long run, but there is nothing to indicate any significant advances to explain a one-year growth in gross product that would not reduce dependence on labor.

EMPLOYMENT DROPPING FASTER THAN GROSS PRODUCT

None of Idaho's 20 major industry sectors showed employment decreasing faster than gross product. An industry in this category would likely be in significant risk of long-term demise and would exhibit declining demand with workers leaving for jobs in other industries with brighter outlooks.

GROSS PRODUCT FALLING FASTER THAN EMPLOYMENT

Only the professional, scientific and technical services industry saw gross product decline faster than employment between 2011 and 2012. The list grows to three – adding construction and management of companies – between 1997 and 2012.

These industries have experienced these trends over the long term. The professional, scientific and technical services industry is dominated by employment financed directly or indirectly by the U.S. Department of Energy and the Idaho National Laboratory. Funding cuts in recent years are likely the cause of declining real gross product for this industry. If cuts persist, continued job losses are expected.

EMPLOYMENT GROWING FASTER THAN GROSS PRODUCT

Education was the only industry where employment grew faster than real gross product between 2011 and 2012. Education, utilities, government and arts, entertainment and recreation experienced employment growth over real gross product from 1997 to 2012. It is possible that some of the jobs added in these industries offered lower pay. These industries are also predominantly financed through funds from taxes, grants or fees that were raised earlier. This would result in a lagged effect on employment during the year following a decline in real gross product.

GROSS PRODUCT GROWING FASTER THAN EMPLOYMENT

When all industries are combined, real gross product statewide typically grows faster than employment – especially over the long run. This trend is fueled by growth industries offering higher wages, adapting to technological change and likely experiencing higher business profits.

EMPLOYMENT AND GROSS PRODUCT GROWING BY THE SAME AMOUNT

More industries experience employment and real gross product growth at about the same rates in the short run rather than the long run. These are mostly service providers often connected to government funding in some form. Health care and social assistance was the only industry to see both employment and gross product grow at about the same rates over the long term. This is likely the result of general population growth that is setting the pace for industry expansion.

EMPLOYMENT AND GDP SHRINKING BY THE SAME AMOUNT

Over the short-run and in the long-run, there were no industries that experienced declines in gross product and employment at equivalent rates.

As Idaho’s economy continues to develop and attract higher technology and skilled labor across all industries, real gross product per capita will continue to expand. This is good news for Idaho which is second to last – just above Mississippi – in per capita real gross product. As productivity improves, income levels should rise along with the standard of living.

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Employment vs. Real GDP Growth Comparison																
Industry	GDP Growing: Jobs Not		GDP Growing: Employment Not		Employment Falling Faster Than GDP		GDP Falling Faster Than Employment		Employment Growing Faster Than GDP		GDP Growing Faster Than Employment		Same Growth		Same Decline	
	2011-2012	1997-2012	2011-2012	1997-2012	2011-2012	1997-2012	2011-2012	1997-2012	2011-2012	1997-2012	2011-2012	1997-2012	2011-2012	1997-2012	2011-2012	1997-2012
All industry total											✓	✓				
Mining	✓	✓														
Information			✓	✓												
Real estate and rental and leasing	✓	✓														
Professional, scientific, and technical services							✓	✓								
Finance and insurance											✓	✓				
Other services, except public administration	✓	✓														
Administrative and waste management services	✓											✓				
Agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting	✓			✓												
Manufacturing				✓							✓					
Construction			✓					✓								
Health care and social assistance	✓													✓		
Retail trade											✓	✓				
Educational services									✓	✓						
Wholesale trade											✓	✓				
Management of companies and enterprises	✓							✓								
Utilities										✓				✓		
Accommodation and food services												✓		✓		
Arts, entertainment, and recreation										✓				✓		
Transportation and warehousing												✓		✓		
Government										✓				✓		

Source: U.S. Dept. of Commerce - Bureau of Economic Analysis
✓ indicates 2011-2012; ✓ indicates 1997-2012.

Description	Measure: Jobs, Real GDP (\$Millions)	1997	2011	2012	2011- 2012	1997- 2012
All industry total	Employment	545,065	646,716	654,214	1.2%	20.0%
	Real GDP	\$ 30,989	\$ 50,759	\$ 50,976	0.4%	64.5%
Mining	Employment	4,026	4,573	4,790	4.7%	19.0%
	Real GDP	\$ 242	\$ 432	\$ 246	-43.1%	1.7%
Information	Employment	10,149	12,360	12,337	-0.2%	21.6%
	Real GDP	\$ 519	\$ 1,189	\$ 1,291	8.6%	148.7%
Real estate and rental and leasing	Employment	23,746	43,256	44,831	3.6%	88.8%
	Real GDP	\$ 3,981	\$ 6,385	\$ 6,213	-2.7%	56.1%
Professional, scientific, and technical services	Employment	35,505	52,881	52,230	-1.2%	47.1%
	Real GDP	\$ 1,962	\$ 3,562	\$ 3,346	-6.1%	70.5%
Finance and insurance	Employment	25,428	39,348	40,014	1.7%	57.4%
	Real GDP	\$ 1,243	\$ 2,400	\$ 2,550	6.3%	105.1%
Other services, except public administration	Employment	35,502	43,557	44,668	2.6%	25.8%
	Real GDP	\$ 1,219	\$ 1,090	\$ 1,079	-1.0%	-11.5%
Administrative and waste management services	Employment	27,549	49,594	50,217	1.3%	82.3%
	Real GDP	\$ 647	\$ 1,573	\$ 1,543	-1.9%	138.5%
Agriculture, forestry, fishing, and hunting	Employment	15,358	11,309	11,389	0.7%	-25.8%
	Real GDP	\$ 1,417	\$ 2,235	\$ 2,187	-2.1%	54.3%
Manufacturing	Employment	69,008	60,175	62,261	3.5%	-9.8%
	Real GDP	\$ 2,000	\$ 8,454	\$ 8,978	6.2%	348.9%
Construction	Employment	51,129	51,122	50,617	-1.0%	-1.0%
	Real GDP	\$ 3,211	\$ 2,086	\$ 2,122	1.7%	-33.9%
Health care and social assistance	Employment	52,888	91,185	92,441	1.4%	74.8%
	Real GDP	\$ 2,179	\$ 3,881	\$ 3,830	-1.3%	75.8%
Retail trade	Employment	92,302	99,534	101,181	1.7%	9.6%
	Real GDP	\$ 2,882	\$ 4,038	\$ 4,209	4.2%	46.0%
Educational services	Employment	6,850	14,738	15,064	2.2%	119.9%
	Real GDP	\$ 206	\$ 303	\$ 304	0.3%	47.6%
Wholesale trade	Employment	25,240	29,418	30,283	2.9%	20.0%
	Real GDP	\$ 1,504	\$ 2,568	\$ 2,683	4.5%	78.4%
Management of companies and enterprises	Employment	7,408	6,316	6,356	0.6%	-14.2%
	Real GDP	\$ 834	\$ 537	\$ 533	-0.7%	-36.1%
Utilities	Employment	1,897	2,974	3,001	0.9%	58.2%
	Real GDP	\$ 660	\$ 900	\$ 904	0.4%	37.0%
Accommodation and food services	Employment	46,124	56,213	57,772	2.8%	25.3%
	Real GDP	\$ 962	\$ 1,321	\$ 1,362	3.1%	41.6%
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	Employment	10,985	17,683	18,518	4.7%	68.6%
	Real GDP	\$ 259	\$ 371	\$ 388	4.6%	49.8%
Transportation and warehousing	Employment	21,325	25,686	26,100	1.6%	22.4%
	Real GDP	\$ 1,073	\$ 1,445	\$ 1,467	1.5%	36.7%
Government	Employment	108,980	126,816	127,022	0.2%	16.6%
	Real GDP	\$ 5,825	\$ 6,433	\$ 6,486	0.8%	11.3%

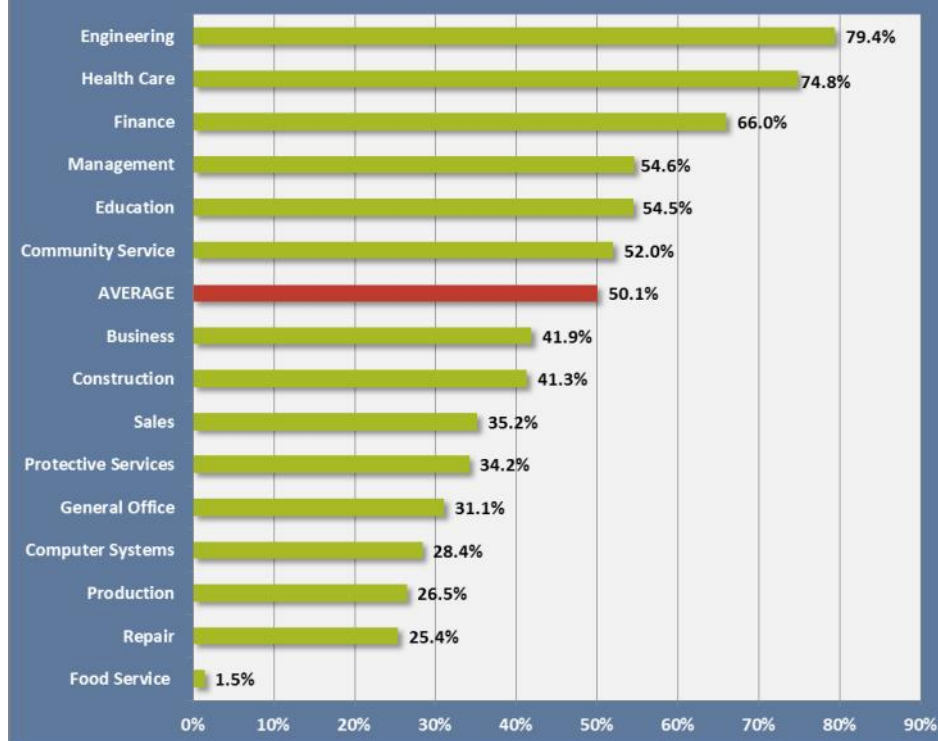
IDAHO ENGINEER STUDENTS TEND TO STAY IN FIELD

More than 172,000 people 25 and older hold bachelor's degrees in Idaho, about 17 percent, but only half work in the field they studied. The relationship between field of degree and occupation is strongest for occupations that require a four-year degree, specific skills and specific training. The top occupations in that category are engineers, health care providers, financiers, managers and educators. A bachelor's degree in engineering is required for most entry level engineering jobs, and the engineering specialty is typically linked to the college curriculum. Of all the engineering disciplines, chemical and environmental engineers have the highest relationship between field of degree and occupation, according to census data.

A certain personality type and a sense of satisfaction drives students into engineering. Most know that academic institutions focus their engineering programs, allowing little or no variation from the specific field of degree. Students accept this, knowing the high job placement rates that come with engineering degrees.

According to Economic Modeling Specialists International, there were 9,107 engineers employed in Idaho in 2010. Another 193 were self-employed. The demand for engineers is strong. In the same year there were 320 Idaho openings for engineers, and Idaho's four-year degree institutions graduated 298.

Percentage of Jobs Directly Related to Field of Degree



Employers in certain parts of the state report difficulty attracting engineers in all specialties – in some cases because candidates lack experience in the specific engineering programs the employers use and in others because engineering graduates are more inclined to pass by more rural areas for bigger cities where projects are large and jobs are plentiful.

In Idaho, there are more civil engineers than any other engineering specialty, but their concentration compared to the nation is not as great as the Idaho concentration of electrical, nuclear and materials engineers because of employers like Micron Technology Inc., the Idaho National Laboratory, Schweitzer Engineering Laboratories Inc. and several gun and ammunition manufacturers.

Civil engineers also are the lowest paid among engineers because most of their work comes from government, where contract funds are limited. They are, however, responsible for the bridges, roads and other public infrastructure that are critical to commerce and economic growth. Idaho's expanding population and aging infrastructure signals increased pressure on such public systems – and for the engineers who design them.

Most of the projected engineering openings through 2020 are the result of retirements and general turnover rather than new jobs.

The exception is electrical engineering where jobs are estimated to jump dramatically by 2020 from 27 in 2010 to 73 – most attributed to growth. That growth rate of 16 percent is nearly three times the national growth rate for electrical engineers. Advances in technology will drive demand for electrical and electronic engineers in research and development as well as for development of distribution systems for more powerful portable computing devices. Growth in the manufacturing sector, however, will be slower.

The growing transportation equipment and machinery manufacturing sectors in Idaho have driven the demand for mechanical engineers. This cross-industry occupation will be in demand as machines continue replacing more expensive human labor and as remanufacturing evolves and nanotechnology prospers.

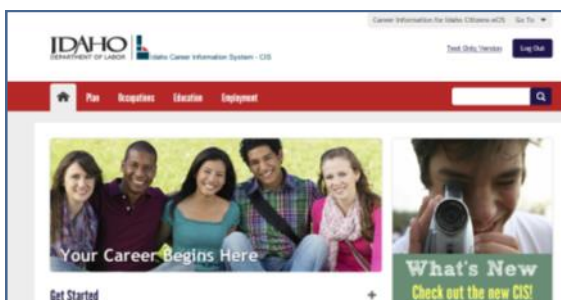
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Supply and Demand of Engineers in Idaho by Discipline								
Engineering Discipline	Employment	Avg Annual Salary	Location Quotient	Supply (comple-tions) 2010	Demand (annual openings) 2010	Projected Growth, 2010-2020		
						Numeric	Percent	Annual Openings
Civil	1,320	\$77,900	1.1	74	44	69	5.10%	n/a
Electrical	1,070	\$95,720	1.28	70	27	135	14.10%	73
Mechanical	1,060	\$85,060	0.92	93	52	158	15.00%	58
Industrial	840	\$84,930	0.85	n/a	28	119	14.10%	28
Nuclear	250	\$115,580	2.48	4	13	29	12.40%	17
Materials	140	\$92,920	1.25	16	5	10	7.90%	8
Chemical	110	\$106,760	0.79	17	6	13	10.80%	5
Source: Idaho Department of Labor Occupation Employment Statistics, Economic Modeling Specialists International.								
Engineering Graduates by Idaho Institution, 2010								
				Bachelors	Masters	Doctorate		Certificate
Boise State University								
Civil Engineering, General				25	4	-		-
Computer Engineering, General				-	3	-		-
Electrical and Electronics Engineering				26	14	2		-
Materials Engineering				13	5	-		-
Mechanical Engineering				30	6	-		-
Category total				94	32	2		-
University of Idaho								
Agricultural Engineering				2	-	-		-
Bioengineering and Biomedical Engineering				10	1	1		-
Chemical Engineering				17	4	-		-
Civil Engineering, General				40	13	1		-
Computer Engineering, General				8	2	-		-
Electrical and Electronics Engineering				31	31	1		-
Environmental/Environmental Health Engineering				4	2	-		-
Geological/Geophysical Engineering				-	1	-		-
Materials Engineering				3	1	1		-
Mechanical Engineering				56	26	1		-
Metallurgical Engineering				-	1	-		-
Nuclear Engineering				-	4	0		-
Systems Engineering				-	1	-		-
Water Resources Engineering				-	3	-		-
Category total				171	90	5		-
Idaho State University								
Civil Engineering, General				9	2	-		-
Electrical and Electronics Engineering				13	-	-		-
Engineering Science				-	-	5		-
Environmental/Environmental Health Engineering				-	1	-		-
Mechanical Engineering				7	1	-		-
Nuclear Engineering				4	8	0		2
Systems Engineering				-	4	-		-
Category total				33	16	5		2
GRAND TOTALS:				298	138	12		2

NEW CIS WEB DESIGN CUSTOMIZED FOR ITS MANY USERS

More than two years of designing, testing and consultation has resulted in the Career Information System's new appearance and arrangement of information. Its design is customized according to user, which can range from adult counselors, educators and job seekers to high school, junior high, college and elementary students.

Adult users will see assessments, job search information, school and financial aid information right up front. The focus for students in junior high and high school emphasizes career planning, postsecondary training or college and getting help to pay for school. Learn more at <http://labor.idaho.gov/dnn/idl/IdahoCareerInformation/CISNews/CISNewsletters/CISNewsFall2013.aspx#story2>.



NEWS BRIEFS

IDAHO WINE INDUSTRY KEEPS GROWING

Idaho's growing wine industry was cheered by a Morgan Stanley research report released in late October. It said that global demand for wine exceeded supply by 300 million cases in 2012, and the wine shortage is likely to grow. World wine production peaked in 2004. Since then, many European vineyards have closed, causing production capacity to fall 10 percent after 2005. Bad weather for growing grapes depressed last year's production. While production fell, global consumption rose, especially in the United States and China. American per capita consumption of wine has doubled since 2000. The U.S. now consumes 12 percent of the world's wine. China's consumption increased four-fold in the past five years, making China the fifth largest import market for wine. Reduced European production and growing consumer markets may make it easier for Idaho's wineries to gain share. There is still a lot of competition – about 1 million wineries worldwide. Idaho currently has about 50 wineries and 1,200 acres planted in wine grapes. They produce about 200,000 cases of wine a year and provide about 625 jobs.

U.S. HOUSING CONSTRUCTION BOOST FOR IDAHO

With increased U.S. housing construction, Idaho's sawmills and logging contractors have expanded production and employment in the last year. Idaho's wood product manufacturers employed nearly 5,800 this August, up 7.1 percent from 5,400 the previous August, while logging employment was up 4.8 percent from 1,450 to 1,520. The U.S. started new housing units at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 907,000 in the first nine months of the year, 21 percent higher than the 748,000 in the same months of 2012. That is still way below the nearly 1.6 million units started per year from 1967 to 2007. Stronger demand pushed lumber prices up this year. Lumber prices hovered above \$380 this October. A year earlier, they were about \$320.

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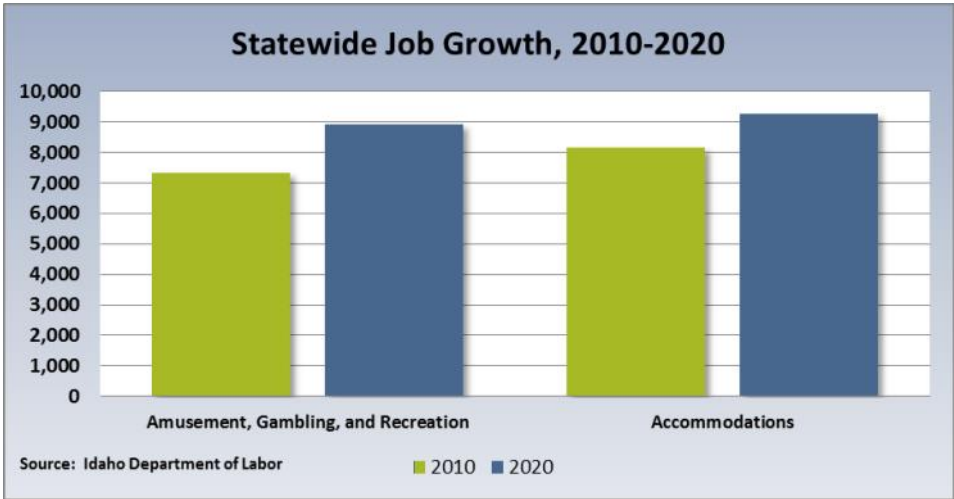
TOURISM GROWTH EXPECTED IN SOUTHEASTERN IDAHO

The tourism industry in Idaho employs more than 26,000 workers and adds \$3.4 billion to the state’s economy, according to the U.S. Travel Association. That means about 3.4 percent of the Idaho’s workforce is employed in tourism or tourism-related enterprises.

To enhance tourism’s economic impact, the Idaho Department of Commerce provides grants to local tourism organizations through the Idaho Travel Grant Program and leverages the state’s natural beauty and low cost of doing business to attract film productions. The department also works with local communities to promote local festivals, niche attractions and professional conferences.

The efforts seem to be paying dividends. According to the Idaho Department of Labor’s Long-Term Industry Projections for 2010-2020, several industries related to tourism will see employment increases.

Jobs at amusement, gambling and recreation businesses should increase from 7,310 in 2010 to 8,940 by 2020, more than 22 percent. Hotel employment is expected to grow from 8,150 in 2010 to 9,280 workers.



Southeastern Idaho like the rest of the state has also made efforts to draw tourists, taking advantage of its location. The region’s seven counties surround the Interstate 15 corridor, which is not only a major transportation gateway, but also the major artery to Yellowstone National Park.

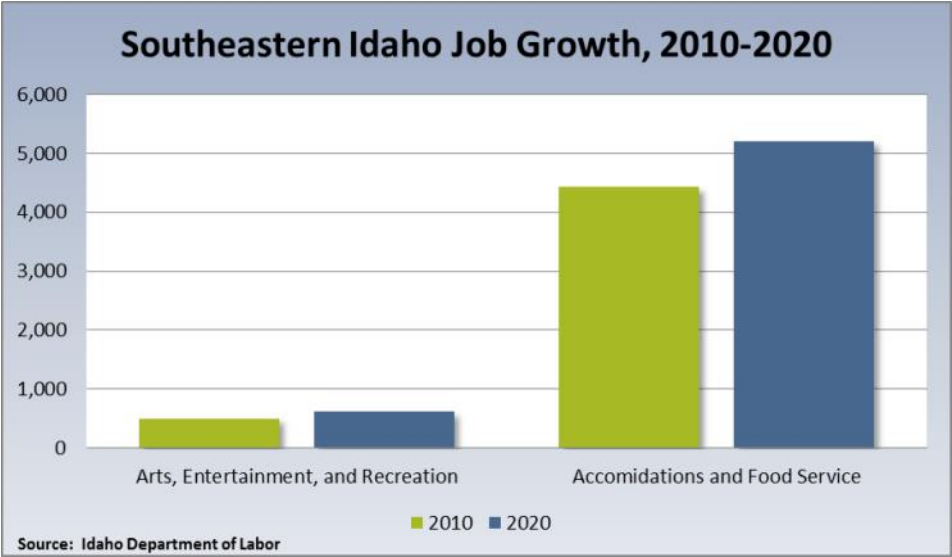
Besides being near Yellowstone, the region hosts the annual Eastern Idaho State Fair in Blackfoot held in September, which draws thousands of visitors who patronize local hotels and restaurants.

The nearby Shoshone-Bannock Hotel and Events Center offers several large meeting and conference rooms, a choice of restaurants, a spa and modern rooms with the amenities of a luxury hotel. The event center has also hosted several concerts and performances since it opened just over a year ago. Adjacent to the hotel is a casino offering a wide variety of gaming.

The Shoshone-Bannock Tribes also plan to add a water park to the complex.

Bear Lake, which is shared with Utah, draws visitors from all over the West. The lake is known for sapphire blue waters and many affordable recreational activities.

The Idaho Labor department’s long-term projections show jobs in arts, entertainment and recreation will increase from 506 in 2010, to 618 by 2020, over 22 percent, while hotel and restaurant employment is forecast to rise 17.5 percent to over 5,200.



More growth in tourism is likely in the coming years as new tourism-related businesses continue to open in the region such as the Horse Station, an equestrian focused vacation complex in Franklin. The new business will provide about 100 jobs when it opens, likely next year.

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FOOD PROCESSORS BRING MORE JOBS TO SOUTH CENTRAL IDAHO

South central Idaho has received a significant economic boost with the announcement that two food processing companies are relocating to the area, creating 350 jobs with another 300 possible in the future.

Frulact, a fruit processing company based in Portugal, will build its first U.S. plant in Rupert, hiring 100 employees initially. Specific dates for the next steps have not yet been announced.

Clif Bar and Company’s new Twin Falls plant will employ 250. The company prides itself on workplace innovation and promoting life balance. Founded in 1986, it is headquartered in Emeryville, Calif., along with Pixar Animation Studios, Jamba Juice and Peet’s Coffee and Tea.

Cyclist Gary Erickson founded the company after the energy bars he had packed on a 175-mile fell short of keeping him energized, forcing him to detour to a convenience store for more sustenance. Erickson called it an epiphany in his book “Raising the Bar: Integrity and Passion in Life and Business: The Story of Clif Bar Inc.” Working from his mother’s kitchen, Erickson developed the Clif Bar and has expanded to an energy gel, energy shots, the Luna Bar for women and a kid’s fruit bar that provides a full serving of fruit. All products are adapted to fit the taste preferences, convenience

and unique needs of each consumer group while keeping to the healthy and satisfying standards.

In 2010, the family-owned company converted 20 percent of the value into an Employee Stock Ownership Plan. Erickson and his family had turned down a \$120 million buyout offer from Quaker Foods in 2003, fearing it would undermine the nimbleness that had marked the company's success. Clif Bar started with a \$1,000 investment. It helped that Erickson and his wife, Kit Crawford, were already in the baking business and bringing home a profit most



Gary Erickson, founder of Clif Bar and Company, and wife, Kit Crawford.

years. This led to some experimentation and innovation, and the first year of energy bar sales hit \$700,000, more than doubling their existing business sales. The company is named after Erickson's father, Clifford Erickson. It also has led to a Clif Family Winery in the Napa Valley.

About 70 percent of the ingredients used by Clif Bar are certified organic. The company contributes to research in crop diversity and labeling of genetically modified food sources. The Clif Bar Family Foundation supports organizations working on open spaces, urban forests, bike- and pedestrian-friendly communities and restoring watersheds. It also provides a \$6,500 subsidy to its employees who buy energy efficient vehicles and \$1,000 towards conducting an energy audit or improving energy efficiency in their homes. Clif Bar promotes "sustaining our planet, sustaining our community, sustaining our people, sustaining our business, sustaining our brands."

The company offers its employees 25 free fitness classes at the company gym and 2.5 hours a week paid leave for exercise with a personal trainer.

Clif Bar ranked ninth among medium-sized companies in the 2013 Great Place to Work® List compiled by Fortune magazine, reflecting the satisfaction of its workers. The staff in Emeryville, Calif., enjoy a pet-friendly atmosphere, and pet insurance is offered as part of the benefit package. Employers also qualify for a two-month paid sabbatical after working seven years for the company – an opportunity to refresh and get a new perspective.

Turnover is about 3 percent because of its policies, creating a more productive staff with greater loyalty.

Clif Bar has already initiated a conversation about partnering with Chobani Greek Yogurt on a shared child care and gym facility at the Jayco Industrial Park, where the companies will be neighbors.

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Area and County Developments

NORTHERN IDAHO

Benewah, Bonner, Boundary, Kootenai & Shoshone counties

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

- Working together to expand northern Idaho's technology industry, communication mobile platform company iShoutOut has pledged \$100,000 to the University of Idaho-Coeur d'Alene's technology initiative, Dign'IT. The Coeur d'Alene-based company recently gave the first installment of \$25,000 to the center.
- Nearly 700 people from around the world attended the 11th annual Silver Summit in late October in Spokane. Participants toured Idaho's Silver Valley Sunshine Mine, Lucky Friday Mill and New Jersey Mill. The summit featured 13 speakers and over 60 exhibitors including the country's top three silver producers.
- Boeing has renewed its previously suspended partnership with Lockheed Martin to bid on building the next generation long-range bomber for the Air Force. The \$55 billion bomber program calls for development of 100 long-range strike aircraft to replace the B-2 Spirit stealth bomber. The Pentagon wants the initial aircraft in the mid-2020s. The first version of the bomber will be piloted, but it will be set up for future unmanned operation.
- Two Spokane entrepreneurs have launched Arevo Health, a cloud-based software startup that provides tools for companies to review, analyze and adjust their health care costs. Arevo will better track what benefits employees use and what they value. It can identify cost-saving options for employers and employees. For example, one pharmacy might charge \$45 to fill a prescription and another \$90, but the employee pays a flat rate of \$10 in either case and the health provider picks up the difference. With Arevo, employers can notify their employee pool of potential cost savings, and Arevo will track pharmacy use. The client can use the Arevo data to reward employees who actively save the company money with incentives such as gift cards. Arevo ensures employee privacy is protected. The model works for companies ranging in size from 100 to 100,000 employees.
- Family Maternity Center at Providence Holy Family Hospital in Spokane is starting a \$9.5 million expansion and remodeling project, which is scheduled to be completed early next year.
- Spokane Community College is starting two new courses for nursing assistant certification. The program offers bridge courses for certified medical assistants and certified home care aides and enables students to take the national nursing assistant certified examination.

- Washington State University's College of Nursing and the Spokane Tribe of Indians are collaborating with the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities on substance abuse and mental health problems among young people. The three-year, \$825,000 grant will be used to conduct a community based research project to help prevent suicides and substance abuse among youth and help them deal with unresolved grief.
- Aging and Long Term Care of Eastern Washington and the Community Health Association of Spokane will work with Washington State University under a \$1.3 million federal grant to research and provide health care tips to 300 patients with at least two chronic conditions. The study will determine whether the care team's interventions lead to better health for recipients.

COUNTY DEVELOPMENTS

BONNER COUNTY

- Sandpoint-based Tamarack Aerospace Group solidified a partnership with one of the biggest names in aviation – Cessna Aircraft. Cessna will market and sell Tamarack's signature active winglet and install the technology on its line of Citation jets. The Cessna Citation CJ1 jet has been an instrumental part of Tamarack's testing process and was the star of the show during an unofficially record-breaking flight this summer. The cooperation between Tamarack and Cessna engineers should also help speed the process of active winglet certification.
- Bonner County Community College, Forrest M. Bird Charter School, North Idaho College, the J.A. and Kathryn Albertson Foundation and the Idaho Aerospace Alliance have teamed up to establish the Idaho P-TECH program – Pathways in Technology Early College High School. By incorporating two years of advanced education into the standard K-12 model, P-TECH students earn a high school diploma and an associate degree or job training certification. This helps them secure gainful employment straight out of high school or get a jump start on a four-year degree. Planners hope early efforts will expand into a statewide educational network that will help more Idaho students earn college degrees or training certifications and connect high schoolers with jobs right after graduation. Early this year, Bonner County Community College and Forrest M. Bird Charter School successfully applied for a \$400,000 Albertson Foundation grant to establish aeronautics training courses for high school students.
- Sandpoint-based Coldwater Creek has laid off 20 percent of its full-time corporate workforce to save between \$20 million and \$25 million in the 2014 fiscal year although severance packages and restructuring costs will total \$3 million.
- The Greater Sandpoint Chamber of Commerce will host the fifth annual Empowering Women In Business Conference in November at the Coldwater Creek Auditorium. The event is organized by the chamber's Women In Business Committee.

KOOTENAI COUNTY

- A new Coeur d'Alene-based company, RockStar Resources, has been formed to advance precious metals projects into production by providing financial and permit support. Former Coeur d'Alene Mines Chief Executive Dennis Wheeler was named chairman of the newly formed company and K. Leon Hardy, a 30-year geological engineer, is president and chief executive. Rick Richins is an environmental and governmental affairs expert who was instrumental in the multiyear permitting of the Kensington Gold Mine in Alaska. RockStar Resources also added former Idaho Gov. Cecil Andrus to its board of directors.
- The Idaho Department of Labor's Kootenai County office hosted the 2013 Autumn Job Fair in October. Approximately 350 job seekers and 35 employers participated, and nearly 40 people have been hired so far.

SHOSHONE COUNTY

- A crew of 40 actors, directors, producers and equipment technicians filmed a scene at the Enaville Resort, commonly known as the Snakepit, for their upcoming film "American Romance," which is planned to be released in 2014.
- For the first time in the recreation area's history, visitation numbers at Lookout Pass and the Route of the Hiawatha exceeded 100,000 from Oct. 1, 2012, through Sept. 30, 2013. The Hiawatha had 36,333 visitors this summer while 65,572 people hit the slopes at Lookout Pass last winter.
- The Bunker Hill mine in Kellogg was shut down to save money while a potential sale is pending. The mine has been in repair and maintenance for years with around nine workers. The Bunker Hill mine and smelter were once the one of the largest employers in the state before shutting down in the 1980s. Bunker Hill has been a symbol of the Silver Valley's rich mining history for decades.
- Hecla Mining Co.'s construction of the No. 4 shaft at the Lucky Friday mine – the mine's future – hit a developmental milestone in the third quarter by reaching the 5,900-foot level. Company leaders maintain the No. 4 shaft will keep the mine profitable for decades to come. The goal of the \$200 million project is to reach 8,800 feet by 2016. That level is expected to have a much higher silver concentrate, increasing production by 50 percent.

OPENINGS

- Parker Volkswagen in Post Falls
- The Culinary Stone in Coeur d'Alene
- Pastry & More in Coeur d'Alene
- Enaville Resort, once known as the Snakepit, in Enaville
- The Box Golf Training Center driving range at the University of Idaho-Sandpoint
- Under Cover Boat and RV Storage Services in Post Falls
- Adventure's First Stop, a convenience store in Coeur d'Alene
- Auto Credit Sales in Hayden
- St. Vincent de Paul thrift store in Osburn

- Evergreen Home Loans in Sandpoint
- An additional Country Comfort assisted living facility in Coeur d'Alene
- Extendicare in Coeur d'Alene
- Four Corners in Coeur d'Alene
- Title One in Kootenai County with up to 12 jobs

EXPANSIONS

- The Exercise Institute inside the Old Power House building in Sandpoint
- Core Accounting and Consulting to a larger space in Coeur d'Alene

CLOSURES

- Painted Pony in Coeur d'Alene
- The Gentlemen's Corner in Coeur d'Alene
- The Idaho Iron Gym in Post Falls
- Temptations Gourmet Cupcakes in Coeur d'Alene

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NORTH CENTRAL IDAHO

Clearwater, Idaho, Latah, Lewis and Nez Perce counties

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

- The Forest Service is preparing to release an impact study that will determine the future of megaload transport. Following approval by the Forest Service office in Missoula, Mont., the draft will go to the Nez Perce Tribal Executive Committee for approval. In the meantime, a General Electric subsidiary abandoned its legal effort to reverse the injunction that blocked it from moving huge loads from the Port of Wilma near Clarkston along U.S. Highway 12 to the oil sands of Alberta. The company wanted to move water purification equipment. Its contracted hauler, Omega Morgan, shipped one megaload – 21 feet wide, 255 feet long and weighing 644,000 pounds – from the port in August. After the Nez Perce Tribe and Idaho Rivers United filed suit opposing the oversized shipments, a U.S. district judge ruled the Forest Service improperly allowed megaloads to proceed prior to completing its study of their potential effects and consulting with the tribe. Highway 12 runs 100 miles through the Clearwater National Forest. Despite the difficulties, more companies are likely to want to move megaloads along the route. Using the ports in Lewiston or Clarkston, companies can barge loads 400 miles inland, then move them along Highway 12, which is free of overpasses that can prevent the shipment of oversized loads.

COUNTY DEVELOPMENTS

CLEARWATER COUNTY

- AAA Tool and Cutter Grinding Inc. moved from Los Angeles to Orofino in the 1990s when the Internet allowed it to make sales long distance. The company makes custom instruments and tools for medical, aeronautics and high-tech companies. It also sharpens and re-tips tools purchased elsewhere. Initially, the business employed two people in Orofino. Since

new owners took over in June, the business has hired three people and outgrown its space near Orofino City Park. Today, 11 people work there. The company plans to move to a new site near Orofino High School and add staff.

- The National Guard Youth Challenge Program in Pierce is recruiting students for its first class in January. The boot camp-style program lasts 22 weeks and then offers a 12-month follow-up with mentors. Students must be ages 16 to 18 and have either dropped out of high school or be at risk of dropping out. The students must choose to attend. During their residency at the academy – which is free – they will have the chance to earn a year’s worth of high school credits and gain career, leadership and life skills in a highly structured environment. The approximately \$2.8 million annual budget for the academy was approved by the Idaho Legislature earlier this year. The federal government will pick up 75 percent of the cost. Now, almost all of the school’s 50 employees have been hired. The program will conduct two classes a year of 120 students each.

IDAHO AND LEWIS COUNTIES

- Winchester celebrated the opening of its renovated community center in early November. The city of 347 used a \$150,000 Idaho Community Development Block Grant for the update, which prevented leaking in the museum and improved accessibility.
- Grangeville finished a \$383,000 sewer line replacement project in November. Western Construction of Lewiston Inc. replaced approximately 3,000 linear feet of deteriorated six-inch diameter clay sewer mains with eight-inch PVC lines. The project is part of a \$4.4 million improvement to the wastewater treatment plant made possibly by a federal Rural Development grant. The line replacement will reduce infiltration of groundwater that taxed the wastewater treatment plant’s capacity.
- Ida-Lew Economic Development and the Clearwater Economic Development Association made a presentation to the Salmon River Chamber of Commerce in mid-November on the possibility of developing a wine industry. “Three regions in Idaho have been identified by the Idaho Wine Commission as suitable for growing wine grapes,” said Melisa Bryant of Ida-Lew Economic Development. “The Snake River Valley has official American Viticulture Area status, the Lewis Clark Valley is working on AVA status and the Salmon River area is rich with possibilities.” Like the other two valleys, the Salmon River Valley has relatively warm weather and good soil conditions for growing grapes.
- Cenex plans to increase the size of its Zip Trip in Grangeville by one-third, add a lounge and shower facilities, relocate the truck fueling island to the north and provide a paved area for trucks to park. The project also will extend F Street, allowing trucks to use it to access the facility more safely. The expansion is expected to increase truck traffic, resulting in a positive economic impact for the city. The convenience store expects to add about five jobs.
- The State Board of Education recognized seven schools statewide – including Prairie Elementary School in Cottonwood and Nezperce School in

Nezperce – as Distinguished Schools for the 2012-2013 school year. “The requirements to achieve this award are rigorous, and the board congratulates the students, teachers, staff, parents and patrons of these schools on their hard work and dedication,” said Don Soltman, president of board. “There are more than 700 schools in Idaho so these seven can be very proud of their outstanding performance and growth last year.” The award goes to schools that achieved a five-star rating for at least two out of the last three years, received no less than a four-star rating in the last three years, meet the annual measurable objectives in all subjects for all Elementary and Secondary Education Act subgroups, be among the top 5 percent of schools in all students proficiency and be among the top 10 percent of schools in the proficiency gaps between the highest and lowest achieving subgroups and between the at-risk and not at-risk subgroups.

- The Super 8 motel in Grangeville recently was recognized among the Top 8 Super 8s of the nearly 2,400 chain properties in North America. The awards are based on guest reviews and ratings for cleanliness and service from surprise inspections. Since it opened in 1999, the 52-room motel has played an important role in the area’s growing tourism industry.
- More than 400 students from six high schools in Idaho and Lewis counties attended a career fair at the Idaho County fairgrounds in Cottonwood on Oct. 2. Organized by Ida-Lew Economic Development, the fair gave students a chance to meet representatives of 37 different employers and learn the many different types of job opportunities available in the area. They also learned about the high school classes and postsecondary education they need for those jobs.

LATAH COUNTY

- Moscow will receive a \$50,000 Gem grant from the Idaho Department of Commerce for infrastructure improvements at the former newspaper office downtown. Economic Modeling Specialists International soon will move into the building, which the Moscow-Pullman Daily News vacated this summer. The grant will help pay for sidewalk and streetscape improvements and the installation of fiber optic cable – upgrades required to keep the economics company in the community. Because it provides Internet-based economic modeling services, the company requires high-speed broadband. It currently employs more than 80 people, up from 50 two years ago. It is moving because it needs more space since it expects to add another 20 workers. The company hires many economic and information technology professionals. The average annual salary is almost \$48,000. Its recent expansion began after its purchase by Careerbuilder.com a year ago.
- The city of Moscow and the Moscow Urban Renewal Agency received awards from Idaho Smart Growth in early November, recognized for planning and zoning efforts including the Legacy Crossing Project. The city and agency plan to redevelop a former industrial corridor between downtown Moscow and the University of Idaho campus, achieving many smart growth principles including planning for quality infill, mixed use develop-

ment, transit-oriented development, protection of open space, using green building design, affordable housing and rehabilitation or reuse of existing resources. The Legacy Crossing Urban Renewal District project also received an Award of Honor in the Outstanding Plan category from the Idaho Chapter of the American Planning Association at its 2013 annual conference.

- Washington State University and the University of Idaho were recognized by a national organization in October for their involvement in the regional economy. The Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities selected them as two of 16 “Innovation and Economic Prosperity Universities.” It recognizes universities for working with partners from the public and private sectors to support local economic development. The Pullman school’s economic successes included creation of a food chain safety program, its business growth mentor and analysis program that provides consultation for small businesses and its Energy Systems Innovation Center, where researchers study smart grids and other energy systems. The Moscow school showcased a capstone project where a team of engineering students worked with Buck Knives in Post Falls to solve a problem with the production machines and its Idaho Pathways Project, where it is working with economic development organizations on a statewide economic plan that has included an economic summit.
- Schweitzer Engineering Laboratories, based in Pullman, Wash., has won three contracts from the U.S. Department of Energy to improve the cybersecurity of energy delivery systems. The contracts are potentially worth about \$10 million over two to three years. The company will help design and test new technology to protect the country’s infrastructure from cyber attacks. The products will be manufactured in Pullman, where Schweitzer has about 2,000 employees.
- The University of Idaho’s enrollment fell almost 5 percent statewide this fall from a year ago. The drop is due to a 6 percent decline in the number of continuing students to 8,028, caused by students graduating more quickly since a reduced number of credits is needed to get a diploma and the decreasing number of first-year students in the three prior years. Though enrollment is down, the university still has the highest student retention rate among Idaho public institutions at 79 percent. It enrolled 1,638 freshmen this fall – five more than last year. New graduate student enrollment increased slightly to 499 students. The number of international students on campus grew 41 last fall for a total of 576. Students come from 76 countries. The university boasts the most National Merit Scholars in the Pacific Northwest. A record-high 25 National Merit Scholars enrolled this fall, raising the total number to 76.
- Washington State University recorded its second-highest total enrollment in September with 27,111 students at four campuses across the state. Enrollment was down 123 from fall 2012. Freshman enrollment in Pullman fell 8 percent – 316 students – to 3,763.
- The lack of economic growth in Moscow and the stagnant student enrollment at the University of Idaho in the past decade are cause for concern, according to a new study by University of Idaho economics professor Ste-

ven Peterson. Commissioned by the Greater Moscow Alliance and completed in September, the study analyzed the economic health of Moscow and the surrounding region. It concluded that Moscow has not grown in 10 years while Pullman has surged in employment and housing. Pullman's growth mostly is the result of expansion at Schweitzer Engineering Laboratories, which has added more than 1,000 jobs there in the last 10 years, and Washington State University, which added about 3,000 new students. In the same period, University of Idaho enrollment grew only 1 percent. What growth Moscow has enjoyed is mostly as the result of Pullman workers who live in Moscow and as the retail growth spurred by Pullman. About 25 percent of Moscow's economy is dependent on Pullman and Whitman County and more than 2,000 Moscow residents commute to Pullman to work, while 700 Pullman residents commute to Moscow. Peterson said each student at the University of Idaho creates about \$57,000 in sales and \$31,000 in wage and salary earnings. He said Moscow's retail superiority is threatened by the new super Walmart, other retail increases in Pullman and the collapse of the new automobile market in Moscow. In the past five years, the city has lost four dealerships and approximately \$100 million in retail sales. As of November, Moscow has no new car dealers.

NEZ PERCE AND ASOTIN, WASH., COUNTIES

- Forecasting slower growth because of the uncertain economic climate, Schweitzer Engineering Laboratories announced it will complete the expansion of its Lewiston facilities 13 months later than originally scheduled. The company now expects to open the 140,000-square-foot building, which is about 85 percent complete, in June 2014. The manufacturer of high-tech equipment for controlling power systems already employs about 220 in Lewiston, and it continues to hire new workers in Lewiston and Pullman.
- Potlatch Corp., which played a major role in Lewiston's economy for more than 80 years, once again has employees. It recently transferred 12 employees from Moscow to downtown Lewiston. It moved because of the difficulty of finding suitable accommodations in Moscow and because Lewiston is centrally located. The change has no effect on regional offices in Deary, Headquarters and St. Maries. The employees are foresters and experts on timber sales, responsible for the 810,000 acres Potlatch owns in Idaho, where it is the largest private land holder. Potlatch has not had an office in Lewiston since it spun off its manufacturing operations and other paper manufacturing as Clearwater Paper eight years ago.
- Lewis-Clark State College's enrollment fell 5 percent from 4,500 in the fall of 2012 to 4,403 this fall. The college's enrollment had risen for the last eight years. Colleges nationwide are seeing their enrollments drop as more job opportunities become available. Changes in federal aid also are making it more difficult for students to qualify. The federal government also decreased the number of years a student may receive Pell grants, which also affected enrollment. The college has a record number of seniors this year, which means the school will need to recruit even more students to bring enrollment back up.

- Tri-State Memorial Hospital in Clarkston changed its plans for a new \$13 million inpatient wing to focus on an expansion of its medical clinic, reflecting the Affordable Care Act's goal to provide as much care as possible in less-expensive outpatient settings. The hospital will determine the time frame for the construction once it learns if will receive a federal grant this winter. Construction is expected to take about 12 months.
- The Salvation Army of Lewiston plans to build a \$120,000 hygiene facility for homeless and low-income individuals to do laundry and take showers. The washers and dryers will be large enough to allow the homeless to wash their bedding. The project is funded by a grant from the City of Lewiston and donors. It'll be housed in the east wing of the Lewiston branch.

OPENINGS

- Hometown Pizza Take and Bake on Grangeville's Main Street with four employees
- Wilderness Eatery serving breakfast, lunch and dinner in Elk City

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SOUTHWESTERN IDAHO

Ada, Adams, Boise, Canyon, Elmore, Gem, Owyhee, Payette, Valley & Washington counties

COUNTY DEVELOPMENTS

ADA COUNTY

- The Gardner Co. closed a deal to purchase the U.S. Bank building in downtown Boise. U.S. Bank will remain the anchor tenant.
- Home Federal Bank in Nampa announced that it is not going to merge with Banner Bank but rather accepted a better offer from the Bank of the Cascades. Home Federal is paying Banner Bank \$3 million for terminating the merger.
- Boise State University has been awarded a \$2 million National Science Foundation grant to improve science, technology, engineering and mathematics courses. The three-year grant will target courses in general chemistry, calculus and pre-calculus, general physics, lower-division engineering and upper-division geoscience.
- Micron Technology Inc. announced a \$1.71 billion profit for its latest quarter, up from a \$43 million the previous quarter. This is the second profitable quarter after a seven-quarter drought. The increase in profits was largely due to Micron's acquisition of Japan's Elpida Memory Inc. and Taiwan's Rexchip Electronics Corp.

CANYON COUNTY

- Hunter's Point Golf Course was acquired by Canyon Golf Partners. The group, which manages several local courses, has plans to improve the property and reopen the closed course in 2014 under a new name.

- Cracker Barrel plans to open a new restaurant in Nampa. Ground breaking should take place in December with the opening in mid-2014. This will be Idaho's second Cracker Barrel Restaurant. The other is in Boise.
- Northwest Nazarene University was awarded a five-year, \$2.5 million grant from the U.S. Department of Education to increase student access to online education. The money will be used to develop online courses that will apply toward a bachelor's degree.

OWYHEE COUNTY

- Two grazing allotments have been permanently retired. The Sagebrush Habitat Conservation Fund and the Western Watershed Project purchased the allotments and permanently retired the federal grazing permits. The two allotments cover 203 square miles.

OPENINGS

- Cambridge Telephone Co. in Council
- The Sandbar, a steak and seafood restaurant in Marsing
- Rebel Hair Co. & Nails in Weiser
- Swank Boutique in Boise
- Woodland Empire Ale Craft in Boise
- Emergency Responders Health Center in Boise

CLOSINGS

- Toadstool Grill in Emmett
- Farm & City Supply in Nampa

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SOUTH CENTRAL IDAHO

Blaine, Camas, Cassia, Gooding, Jerome, Lincoln, Minidoka and Twin Falls counties

COUNTY DEVELOPMENTS

BLAINE COUNTY

- The Sun Valley Resort has raised its lift ticket prices, bringing them in line with Park City, Utah, but still about 6.5 percent below Jackson Hole, Wyo. Full-day tickets from Thanksgiving through Dec. 15 will increase from \$66 to \$69 while regular season full-day tickets after that will go from \$95 to \$99. Lift tickets during the Christmas-New Year's and Washington's Birthday holiday periods will go from \$99 to \$105 a day. Sun Valley, which began making snow earlier this fall, plans to open on Thanksgiving Day.
- The second time was the charm for voters in Ketchum and Hailey, who approved a 1 percent increase in their local option taxes. The additional revenue will cover financial guarantees and marketing for commercial airline flights between major cities and the Wood River Valley. Last year, Sun Valley voters approved the increase, which required a 60 percent majority. Carol Waller, executive director of the Fly Sun Valley Alliance, expects a new board to be established to oversee use of the new revenue.

- Washington Federal Bank has purchased the Bank of America branches in Hailey and Ketchum. The offices will close for a weekend in early December to rebrand. Washington Federal plans no staff changes but will conduct extensive training on the corporate software system.
- Work on rehabilitating areas burned by the 110,000-acre Beaver Creek fire last summer is picking up. The Forest Service did some work during the federal government shutdown because heavy rain had already caused mudslides and erosion in gulches and bare hillsides. The U.S. Geological Survey will place precipitation monitors in specific areas to provide early warning of possible flooding. The Natural Resource Conservation Service is preparing a report assessing aerial seeding of burned areas, and the Army Corps of Engineers will analyze slide potential in high risk drainages and watersheds. Because most work requires a local match in either cash or in-kind services, Blaine County officials will ask private landowners to invest in the mitigation efforts.
- Sustain Blaine, the local economic development organization, has increased its membership to include Rick LeFaivre, a venture capitalist and a former Apple vice president. LeFaivre lives in Sun Valley and will lead the effort to invest locally.
- The city of Ketchum has completed an underground conduit to increase fiber-optic Internet capability downtown.
- The lawsuit between the Blaine County School District and McKinstry Essension over payment for energy efficient construction at various schools has been settled. Under the compromise deal McKinstry Essension guarantees the school district cost savings over 25 years of at least \$9.5 million, and the school district will pay the company \$18.5 million for the work. The school district spent \$2.3 million on legal fees prior to the settlement and expected to pay another \$2 million had the case gone to court.

CASSIA COUNTY

- Merlin Smedley, a long-time Burley resident, has ousted Mayor Terry Greenman to become the city's chief executive. Two new council members and the \$2 million bond for street repair were also approved by voters.
- The Idaho Department of Labor's Burley office sponsored a job fair for workers laid off by Dutchmen RV, which is relocating production to Pendleton, Ore. Those not relocating with the company had the chance to meet with representatives of Double L, McCain Food, Christiansen Implement, ConAgra Foods and staffing agencies.
- Ranchers from Idaho, Utah and Nevada are concerned about the impact of deer and elk on their rangeland, farms and pastures, primarily from non-coordinated hunting across borders. The hunting seasons are not the same in the three states so herds move to areas where there is no hunting for protection. Ranchers contend overgrazing is at least partly the result of larger-than-anticipated wildlife herds and not just cattle. They are also concerned about depredation hunting permits issued in

Nevada but not Idaho and Utah. Nevada lets individual ranchers sell private permits to hunt on grazing or privately owned ground, allowing them to recover some of the financial losses from the wildlife.

- Albion's mayoral race ended in a dead heat between incumbent Don Bowden and challenger John Davis. A coin toss will decide the winner, but the date has not been set.

GOODING COUNTY

- Gooding city voters approved a \$5 million bond to bring drinking water up to standards and upgrade an aging irrigation system. Keller Associates has been selected to design the new system that must be approved by the state Department of Environmental Quality. The city is also seeking Commerce Department approval of a \$350,000 Community Development Block Grant for the project. The project should be completed in early 2015. The city hopes to hold off imposing the tax for repaying the bond until after the project is completed. Then the elimination of the existing charge for gravity irrigation will help offset the higher tax for the bond.

JEROME COUNTY

- Jerome County is in the process of selecting an architect for its new jail, proposed for a site near the Idaho Milk Products plant that has been developed as an industrial park.
- A special use permit for a new planned unit development has been approved by Jerome's Planning and Zoning Commission. 93 Golf Ranch LLC has proposed 70 single-family homes and an RV-storage facility on 180 acres previously zoned as rural residential and commercial. Critics said the development did not fit in with existing land use in the area. Giltner Dairy's 6,000-head operation is adjacent to the site.
- David Davis defeated the incumbent Jerome Mayor John Shine and two other challengers after public outcries over recent city actions. The most recent issues were turnover of the city administrator and fire chief and questions regarding infrastructure and economic development.

MINIDOKA COUNTY

- Rupert water users approved a \$7 million bond issue so the A & B Irrigation District can build a new pumping plant for surface water users. It will also allow cost sharing on a Lake Walcott Recharge Project to inject Snake River water into the aquifer to benefit some groundwater users whose wells have dried up.
- The Rupert City Council voted to formally landscape the site of the razed electric building. The ground is being converted into a parking lot with new sidewalks and a sprinkler irrigation system. The lot will include handicapped spaces for library and civic center patrons.

TWIN FALLS COUNTY

- Tertling & Co. of Boise will buy Agri-Service of Twin Falls, an employee stock ownership farm equipment business. The existing staff of 175 will remain as the business moves into a new facility next year.

- The Auger Falls Pipeline Project has been completed. It will deliver 6 million gallons of treated wastewater, improving the wetlands wildlife habitat on about 100 acres. The project also improved the road accessing the site.
- The College of Southern Idaho has received a \$2.5 million U.S. Department of Labor grant to create a Food Quality Management program housed in its Applied Technology and Innovation Center, which is still under construction. Students will split time between food processing plants and the classroom. The curriculum includes food safety, quality assurance, food processing, automation, electronic control systems and management. Classes can accommodate English-as-a-Second-Language students. Associate degrees in applied science or science and technical certificates will be available.
- The city of Twin Falls issued 22 building permits in October compared to just eight in October 2012. New home prices ranged from \$90,180 to \$329,448 for an average of \$140,000 in October. Wolverton Homes at 10 and James Ray Construction at seven secured the bulk of October's permits.
- The U.S. Dairy Export Council hosted Chinese baby formula manufacturers in Idaho last summer. They toured a dairy, two whey protein plants and two skim milk powder plants. The council estimates that the milk in every seventh tank truck leaving a dairy is slated for export in a value-added form. Class III average milk prices rebounded this summer to nearly \$18 a hundred pounds after slipping below \$17 in August 2012. The price was \$14.36 a hundred pounds in August 2010 before jumping to \$18.25 a year later. (*Source: Capital Press*)

OPENINGS

- Snake River Vapors and Vapaholic, both in Twin Falls
- Auntie Anne's Pretzels in the Twin Falls Walmart store
- Dickie's Barbeque Pit, a Dallas-based franchise in Twin Falls
- Bobcat Corner, a convenience store and gas station on the west side of Burley

UNDER CONSTRUCTION

- Maverik Gas and Convenience Store, replacing the recently razed Masonic Lodge in Twin Falls

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SOUTHEASTERN IDAHO

Bannock, Bear Lake, Bingham, Caribou, Franklin, Oneida & Power counties

COUNTY DEVELOPMENTS

BANNOCK COUNTY

- JH Kelly, the primary contractor for the now-bankrupt Hoku plant in Pocatello, submitted the highest bid for the facility. The \$5.273 million bid is only a fraction of the total amount lost by other creditors including Kelly. The Hoku plant cost an estimated \$700 million to build. The bankruptcy court must decide whether to accept the bid. The community had hoped

that the polysilicon plant would bring hundreds of high-wage jobs when it was announced in 2007, but Hoku was forced out of business when the polysilicon market crashed.

ONEIDA COUNTY

- For many employers in Idaho, soft jobs skills – the ability to work with others, be on time, dress properly, follow directions and communicate – have become a critical issue, and young people seem to have difficulty developing them. So three local employers and staff from the Idaho Department of Labor’s Pocatello office met with about 40 Malad High School students to talk about the importance of soft jobs skills and work ethic. The session in early November was part of the department’s campaign to help young people be successful in the job market.

POWER COUNTY

- Gov. C.L. “Butch” Otter has named American Falls City Councilman H. Norman Wright the Power County Commissioner to fill the rest of the term of Democrat Vicki Meadows, who moved outside her commission district. Wright, who had served on the city council for 10 years before resigning to take the commission appointment, has been active in local affairs. He retired from the U.S. Farm Service Agency and is the current chairman of the Idaho Soil and Water Conservation Commission.

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EASTERN IDAHO

Bonneville, Butte, Clark, Custer, Fremont, Jefferson, Lemhi, Madison & Teton counties

COUNTY DEVELOPMENTS

BONNEVILLE COUNTY

- Microsoft cofounder Bill Gates toured the Idaho National Laboratory in October. Gates, chairman of nuclear reactor startup TerraPower, wanted to learn about the INL’s capabilities. TerraPower is developing a wave reactor that uses depleted uranium as fuel. Depleted uranium is normally not a reactor fuel but is often used in military applications for special ammunition and tank armor.
- The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality designated CH2M-WG, or CWI, a pollution-prevention champion. The cleanup contractor recycled 120,000 cubic feet of scrap metal from one deconstruction project, saved 112,000 gallons of fuel from modifying its fleet vehicle program. CWI also saved 235 million gallons of water by altering its distribution system.
- Enrollment at the University Place satellite campus in Idaho Falls fell this fall. University of Idaho student enrollment decreased 31.7 percent to 220 students. Idaho State University did not have official counts available but estimated enrollment was 1 percent to 2 percent lower than last year. Idaho State officials said the decline was consistent with the 2 percent decrease in 2013 high school graduates.

- Golden Valley Natural, an Idaho Falls meat processing plant, laid off 72 workers in October. The workers were producing pet food jerky for a private label. They were hired last summer but demand for the product slowed this fall. Officials indicated the overall health of the company was good. Around 175 workers are still on the job at its two Idaho Falls locations.

LEMHI COUNTY

- Salmon is a step closer to having a whitewater park. The group backing the project is ready to fund a \$40,000 engineering plan to alter a stretch of the Salmon River to produce man-made waves. Backers expect the park to attract tourists – especially kayakers. The total price could reach \$500,000. The river changes would require federal approval.

MADISON COUNTY

- Brigham Young University-Idaho announced a 4.2 percent decrease in fall enrollment over last year. The school attributed the decrease to changes in the age requirement for Mormon missionaries. In October 2012, the age limit went from 19 to 18; for women it dropped from 21 to 19. Total campus enrollment was 15,584 students this fall compared to 16,262 in fall 2012.

TETON COUNTY

- Teton County recently hired Jason Boal as its new planning administrator. Boal began work in mid-November. He has been an associate planner in Latah County.
- The Idaho National Guard announced the closure of the Driggs Armory in October. The armory had a staff of 22, who will be reassigned to the Orchard Combat Training Center between Mountain Home and Boise. The armory building was constructed in 1961.

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September and October 2013 preliminary unemployment rates for the state, counties and metropolitan areas will be released together on Friday, Nov. 15. September rates were postponed due to the 16-day federal government shutdown. Check our website at labor.idaho.gov/lmi for the most current state and national economic indicators. It will be updated as soon as the information is available.

State of Idaho Data — State Economic Indicators

	Aug 2013**	Jul 2013*	Aug 2012	% Change From	
				Last Month	Last Year
IDAHO LABOR FORCE ⁽¹⁾					
Seasonally Adjusted					
Civilian Labor Force	773,200	774,200	772,800	-0.1	0.1
Unemployment	52,300	51,100	54,300	2.3	-3.7
Percent of Labor Force Unemployed	6.8	6.6	7.0		
Total Employment	720,900	723,100	718,500	-0.3	0.3
Unadjusted					
Civilian Labor Force	775,600	784,300	775,200	-1.1	0.1
Unemployment	49,400	48,800	52,700	1.2	-6.3
Percent of Labor Force Unemployed	6.4	6.2	6.8		
Total Employment	726,200	735,500	722,500	-1.3	0.5
U. S. UNEMPLOYMENT RATE ⁽²⁾					
	Oct 2013	Sep 2013	Oct 2012		
	7.3	7.2	7.9		
UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE				% Change From	
	Oct 2013**	Sep 2012*	Oct 2012	Last Month	Last Year
Claims Activities					
Initial Claims ⁽³⁾	9,231	5,085	9,420	81.5	-2.0
Weeks Claimed ⁽⁴⁾	39,077	41,244	54,978	-5.3	-28.9
Benefit Payment Activities ⁽⁵⁾					
Weeks Compensated	32,126	26,339	41,614	22.0	-22.8
Total Benefit \$ Paid	\$8,278,642.86	\$6,561,242.75	\$9,708,072.85	26.2	-14.7
Average Weekly Benefit Amount	\$257.69	\$249.11	\$233.29	3.4	10.5
Covered Employers	46,884	46,884	46,735	0.0	0.3
Total Benefit \$ Paid					
During Last 12 Months ⁽⁴⁾	\$151,854,853	\$153,284,283	\$188,449,657	-0.9	-19.4
U.S. CONSUMER PRICE INDEX ⁽²⁾					
	Oct 2013	Sep 2013	Oct 2012	% Change Month	% Change Year
Urban Wage Earners & Clerical Workers (CPI-W)	229.74	230.54	227.97	-0.3	0.8
All Urban Consumer (CPI-U)	233.55	234.15	231.32	-0.3	1.0

**Forecast data

* Preliminary estimate

(2) Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

(3) Includes all entitlements on intrastate and interstate agent, new and additional claims.

(4) Includes all entitlements, intrastate and interstate agent.

(5) Includes all entitlements, total liable activities.

Glossary of Labor Market Terms

Agriculture Employment: Persons on agriculture payrolls who work or receive pay for any period during the survey week. This includes owners, operators, unpaid family members who work at least 15 hours a week, and hired laborers.

Average Hourly Earnings/Average Weekly Hours: The average total money earnings earned by production or non-supervisory workers for selected industries. The average number of hours worked by production or non-supervisory workers including overtime, paid vacation, and sick leave. The data is collected for the week including the 12th of the month.

Average Weekly Earnings: Average Hourly Earnings multiplied by Average Weekly Hours.

Civilian Labor Force: A count of non-institutional persons 16 years of age and over residing within a specific geographic area, excluding members of armed forces, who are classified as employed, unemployed and seeking employment, or involved in a labor dispute.

Consumer Price Index (CPI): A national index measuring changes over time in the price of a fixed market basket of goods and services. There are two indexes—the All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) represents the buying habits of about 80 percent of the non-institutional population of the United States, and the Urban Wage & Clerical Workers (CPI-W) represents 40 percent of the population.

Covered Employers: Employers who are subject to state and federal Unemployment Insurance laws.

Durable Goods: Also known as “hard goods” because they include items manufactured or provided by wholesalers with a normal life expectancy of three years or more.

Employed: Individuals, 16 years of age or older, who worked at least 1 hour for pay or profit or worked at least 15 unpaid hours in a family business during the week including the 12th day of the month. Individuals are also counted as employed if they had a job but did not work because they were: ill, on vacation, in a labor dispute, prevented from working because of bad weather, or temporarily absent for similar reasons.

Initial Claim: Any notice of unemployment filed to request (1) a determination of entitlement to and eligibility for compensation or (2) a second or subsequent period of unemployment within a benefit year or period of eligibility.

Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSA): A county or a combination of counties in which at least half the residents live in an urban center of 50,000 or more and the rest have significant commuting ties to that central county. The Office of Management and Budget designates the MSAs. Idaho has five MSAs: Boise MSA including Ada, Canyon, Boise, Gem and Owyhee counties; Bonneville MSA including Bonneville and Jefferson counties; Pocatello MSA including Bannock and Power counties; Lewiston MSA including Nez Perce County and Asotin County, Wash.; Coeur d’Alene MSA including Kootenai County.

Micropolitan Statistical Area (MicSA): Combinations of counties in which at least half the residents live in urban centers totaling at least 10,000—or 5,000 living in a single urban center—and the rest have significant commuting ties to that central county. The Office of Management and Budget designates the MicSAs. Idaho has three MicSAs: Burley MicSA including Cassia and Minidoka counties; Rexburg MicSA including Madison and Fremont counties; Twin Falls MicSA including Twin Falls and Jerome counties.

Glossary of Labor Market Terms (cont.)

Nonfarm Wage & Salary Employment: Persons on nonfarm establishment payrolls (including employees on paid sick leave, paid holiday, or paid vacation) who work or receive pay for any part of the week including the 12th of the month. It is a count of jobs by place of work. It does not include self-employed, unpaid volunteer or family workers, domestic workers in households, military personnel and persons who are laid off, on leave without pay, or on strike for the entire reference period.

Nondurable Goods: Also known as “soft goods” because they include items manufactured or provided by wholesalers that generally last for only a short period of time (three years or less).

Seasonally Adjusted: Data is seasonally adjusted to remove the impact of regular events that occur at the same time every year such as the effect of cold weather on outdoor activities, the Christmas holiday, or the summer influx of youth into the labor market.

Small Labor Market Areas (SLMA): Combinations of counties with significant ties through commuting patterns but no urban centers with populations of 10,000 or more. The Office of Management and Budget designates the SLMAs. Idaho has two SLMAs: Hailey SLMA including Blaine and Camas counties; Grangeville SLMA including Lewis and Idaho counties.

Unemployed: Those individuals, 16 years of age or older, who do not have a job but are available for work and actively seeking work during the week including the 12th of the month. The only exceptions to these criteria are individuals who are waiting to be recalled from a layoff and individuals waiting to report to a new job within 30 days—these, too, are considered unemployed.

Unemployment Insurance: Unemployment Insurance is a program for the accumulation of funds paid by employers, to be used for the payment of Unemployment Insurance to workers during periods of unemployment which are beyond their control.

Unemployment Rate: The number of persons unemployed expressed as a percentage of the labor force.

Weekly Benefit Amount: The amount payable to a claimant for a compensable week of total unemployment.

Weeks Claimed: The number of weeks that unemployed workers claimed Unemployment Insurance benefits.

Weeks Compensated: The number of weeks for which compensation was actually paid.

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